The Muscogee Nation News

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Istook amendment for tribal trust property tax payments passes House

WASHINGTON — The U.S. House of Representatives approved a proposal by Oklahoma Congressman Ernest Istook that would prevent Indian tribes from placing any new land into trust unless tribes agree to make payments in lieu of taxes to states for retail sales to non-members on the property.

Istook, a Republican representing the state's fifth district, attached the amendment as a rider to a funding bill for the department of interior. The bill passed 212 to 206.

Oklahoma's delegation voted four to two for the amendment. Representatives Steve Largent, Tom Coburn, and Frank Lucas — all Republicans — voted for the amendment. Representatives J.C. Watts, a Republican and Democrat Bill Brewster voted against the amendment.

The proposal was criticized by opponents for jeopardizing the funding bill and for violating the federal trust responsibility for the tribes. The measure could give states veto power over future tribal enterprises.

The U.S. Supreme Court has upheld its previous rulings against the states' attempts and abilities to collect taxes on retail sales to tribal members. Istook argued the Court's decision did not apply for sales to non-tribal members.

The bill now goes to the U.S. Senate for consideration.

photo by Stephanie Berryhill

Principal Chief Perry Beaver greets allottee Bennie Wilson at a reception held for allottees during the Creek Nation Festival and Rodeo. Seated next to Wilson is allottee Nancy Beaver. Both are from Holdenville.

Gorton takes another shot at tribes

STROUD — The Chief of the Sac and Fox called a proposal by U.S. Senator Slade Gorton (Republican-Wash.) an "unfettered attack on tribal governmental power" and warns the attack on tribal sovereignty will escalate.

Chief Dora Young, in a prepared release, is urging Indians to take political action against the measure.

Gorton's amendment was inserted into section 329 of the Fiscal Year 1997 Department of Interior appropriations bill. A draft of the bill passed the House. The House version also included an amendment that would require tribes to make a payment in lieu of taxes before any land can be placed in trust (see related story above). The amendment includes language that would waive a tribe's sovereign immunity from suit in the instance a tribe "takes or threatens to take any action that would impact or threaten to impact any person's ownership or use of private property or access to or receipt of water, electricity, or other utility."

"This broad-based attack on sovereignty seriously impedes the economic and governmental progress so many Indian nations are now making," Young said. "It also squanders limited resources for both sides. There is so much that can be accomplished if only state, local, and federal government [officials] will discuss mutual interests and opportunities with Indians, that will benefit both Indians and non-Indians alike on a government-to-government basis."

The act is one of several that some leaders see as a systematic attack on sovereignty. Last year, Gorton galvanized tribes when he sought to reduce funding significantly for Indian programs administered through Interior.

Other acts against tribes presented in this Congressional session include:

- the ongoing battle over adequate funding levels for treaty-protected tribal programs that benefit the health, education, and social welfare of Indians;
- U.S. Rep. Deborah Price (R-Ohio) and her attempts to weaken the Indian Child Welfare Act that protects Indian child adoptions;
- U.S. Rep. Ernest Istook (R-Okla.) amendment forcing tribes to submit to local and state taxation; and
- Oklahoma's motor fuels tax code that extends state taxes into Indian country.

The bill remains in committee.

Notice to our readers

Distribution of the July edition of *The Muscogee Nation News* was delayed because of changes made by the U.S. Postal Service affecting the delivery of third class mail.

The changes were announced July 1. Staff members attended a postal workshop regarding the new regulations July 16. The postal service has reclassified third class mail to standard mail A. The changes affect the distribution centers where *The MNN* is processed for home delivery.

We regret the delay.

Also, as of press time, complete results from the 1996 Creek Nation Festival and Rodeo competitive events had not been received. Space limitations and production demands precluded a partial listing in this month's edition. We will publish as many of the results as space allows in the August edition.

Photographs from the 1996 tribal festival do appear on pages 6 and 7.

— *Eds.*

Letters to the editor

Citizen urges support in sheriff race

Editor:

I am urging the citizens of Okfuskee County to get out and vote for Charles Shepard, an announced candidate for county sheriff.

Shepard is a Cherokee Indian and has a stepson working in the governmental services administration for the Muscogee Nation.

If you haven't voted in the non-Indian election, the time is now to get out to register to vote. The primary election is August 27.

Shepard is a Council of Law Enforcement Education and Training (CLEET) certified officer. What better certified officer could we put in the sheriff's office?

To all the people of Okfuskee County — let's get out and vote.

Christine Henneha, Okemah

Citizen grateful for service

Editor:

I would like to say thank you for the excellent service to: Okemah Clinic; Dr. Sneed; Creek Nation Community Hospital laboratory; Sue Mobley; Bes Marshall; Donna McCullar of contract health; and Dr. Sullivan, Eufaula clinic.

These people are excellent in their respective field.

I especially want to thank Brenda Kennedy, my nephew's wife. She has been excellent help since my wife passed away.

To all you fine people — *mvto.*

Jim Marshall, Shawnee

Legion Post thanks employees

Editor:

The Okmulgee American Legion Post #10 says thank you to Bernice Watson, Perry Anderson, and Bert Robison for their help removing flags from veterans' graves. Our post does not have a large membership, and most of us are of World War II vintage — we are elderly. The aforementioned tribal employees took time to help us after the Memorial Day observance and the post members are grateful.

Also, thanks to the tribal employees who purchased the American Legion poppy boards.

I also want to commend Floyd Jones for his quick response in making minor repairs to the home of my sister who is in very poor health. She is, as well as her family, truly appreciative of the repairs completed.

Jorene Coker, Preston

Citizen offers opinion

Editor:

I have been aware of the brewing problems concerning our sacred mounds at Macon, Ga. for some time. My sister, Pat Philpott, has been actively supporting the protection of the area in question for a long time.

After the letter printed in the June edition of *The Muscogee Nation News* regarding the mounds, I became quite concerned that any member of our National Council would consider repealing the resolutions enacted to protect our sacred lands.

I am urging the Council to hear the people and do not relinquish any part of the Ocmulgee Old Fields or the Lamar Mounds.

Donna Burton, Fairland

Citizen wants freeway project built

Editor:

Most of the National Council could not or would not read the handwriting on the wall concerning the Georgia Fall-Line Freeway project. Though messengers were among you and even sent to interpret the writing, some of you sought to kill them (figuratively speaking).

The possible political and legal ramifications if an amicable solution could not be worked out were explained. Do we now have a potential lawsuit looming over our head? Does the tribe have funds for a legal battle?

Both, Tribal Resolution 92-10 and Tribal Resolution 95-10 should have been rescinded on the intent of continued exploration of the Ocmulgee Old Fields. Those who constructed these resolutions have no intention of preserving the area. They did not use the terms sacred sites because this term would have ended any chance of continued digging and exploring in the Ocmulgee Old Fields. The wording is clear; they plan to continue digging and study of the area. Unfortunately, most of our people were led to believe the opposite and were given the impression that these were sacred sites. Some people really think we still own the land.

I am against both resolutions and have always been against disturbing burial and sacred sites. As is known, no actual grave sites were located on this private land where the proposed highway is to be built.

I would like to know why Eddie LaGrone, Robert Trepp, Alan Cook, and Thomas Yahola still seek to have the Ocmulgee Old Fields explored? What do they hope to find; Opothleyahola's gold? Maybe he did return to bury it in the old Creek Nation.

I know these men know some Mvskoke culture. Have they forgot *posketv* when everything — tools, weapons, utensils, clothing — all was broken and burned? The houses were swept clean and everything was replaced with the new. If they do find an artifact in one piece it will be from a grave. Where does that leave all those that supported the tribal resolutions? Tell me who are the sell outs are in this issue.

Our past leaders still had in their hearts and minds, visions of the homeland. The removal was only 20 years earlier. They knew more about that area and had more feelings about that land than any modern Creek or archaeologist will ever comprehend. They knew what they were doing when they signed away all rights and interests to the homeland in the 1856 treaty. They were looking at the present and the future of the Muscogee Nation.

The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act is a wolf in sheep's clothing. It could have been used to the benefit of the Indian nations as a tool in negotiations, to cultivate friendships and alliances — not as a weapon as was done with TR 92-10 and TR 95-10 where it has made political and influential enemies.

The NAGPRA could also be a link in the master plan of termination. Yes, the federal government is

please see **LETTERS...**, page 12

Clarification

The list of maternal grandparents for Julia Hayden Wakeford (page 16, *The MNN*, June edition) should have included Andrew and Carmelita Skeeter of Tulsa.

Legal Notice

Printed in *The Muscogee Nation News*, volume 25, Issue 7, July 1996

In the matter of J.M.H., minor Muscogee (Creek) child case no. JV 95-02. Notice of hearing to the mother of J.M.H., Jacqueline Hill.

You are hereby given notice of hearing on the above-styled and numbered case for the purpose of termination of your parental rights in the district court room of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, tribal capitol complex at Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the 22nd day of July, 1996 at 1:30 p.m.

You are hereby informed that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the child remain ward of the court and custody be continued in the children and family services administration for continued foster placement or possible preadoptive placement. You are further informed that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

I have hereunto set my hand this 17th day of June, 1996.

(s) Patrick E. Moore, District Court Judge

The Muscogee Nation News

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Deadline for submissions is the third Friday of every month. *The Muscogee Nation News* reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

James Wolfe, managing editor
Stephanie B. Berryhill, senior staff writer
Summer Barnes, secretary

Council confirms Lerblance to tribal supreme court

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) National Council confirmed tribal Supreme Court justice **Richard Lerblance** to a second six-year term at the June regular session.

The 26-member legislature gave unanimous approval to the tribal citizen who is a practicing attorney in Hartshorne. Lerblance was appointed to the Supreme Court by former Principal Chief **Claude Cox** in 1990.

The vote was unanimous 21-0. Voting for confirmation were (in alphabetical order followed by district): **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa; **Johnson Buck**, Tukvpvtce; **Helen Chupco**, Muskogee; **Ron Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; **Anderson Hale**, Okmulgee; **Clyde Johnson**, Okfuskee; **Jess Kelley**, Tulsa; **Dave Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Harley Little**, Muskogee; **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **Abe McIntosh**, Okmulgee; **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Tom Pickering**, McIntosh; **Bruce Smith**, Okfuskee; **George Tiger**, Creek; **Phyllis Warrington**, Creek; **Nancy Watson**, Okfuskee; and **Earl Wheeler**, Creek.

Speaker **Wilbur Gouge** conducted the meeting.

Absent were: **Steve Bruner**, Tulsa; **Irene Cleghorn**, Tulsa; and **A.D. Ellis**, Okmulgee. Former Tukvpvtce representative **Edwin Marshall** resigned his position from the Council to become community services director.

Date set for special election

OKMULGEE — Principal Chief Perry Beaver has set the dates for a special election to fill the vacancy of Muscogee National Council Tukvpvtce District Seat B. Elected representative Edwin Marshall resigned in June to become the deputy director of community services for the tribe.

Filing period for the seat is from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Aug. 19 through 21 at the election board office at the tribal capitol complex, U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56.

The special primary election will be Sept. 28. If necessary, the general election will be Nov. 2.

In other business, the Council:

• voted unanimously (21-0) to let stand a veto of a bill allowing the leasing of tribal property near Hanna to Ray Howard. **Principal Chief Perry Beaver** vetoed the legislation citing an opportunity to realize a profit from the land's wheat yield. Beaver wrote in his veto message the crop could produce approximately $14,000 to $24,000;

• approved (19-2) an amendment to the fiscal year 1996 comprehensive budget to fund the office of the deputy director of community services. The measure provides funding for the position for the remainder of the year. Voting against the amendment were: **R. Cleghorn**, Tulsa; and **Wheeler**, Creek;

• approved (20-1) the confirmation of tribal citizen Edwin Marshall as director of community services. Marshall was elected to the Council in 1995 and began his term as Tukvpvtce District Representative this year. He resigned his position in June to assume his administrative post.

Voting no was **R. Cleghorn**, Tulsa.

• approved (18-3) to provide $6,000 in seed money to the community development department to provide seminars and technical assistance for chartered tribal community officials. The program is headed by **Steve Landsberry** and **Kenneth Tiger**.

Voting against the measure were: **Berryhill**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; **Gillespie**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; and **Warrington**, Creek;

• approved unanimously (21-0) to modify the vocational grant allocation. The modification requires Council approval as it exceeds the 10 percent limit established by the comprehensive budget act;

• gave unanimous consent (21-0) for the principal chief to request trust status for the land of **Hillabee Ceremonial Ground** and other property in McIntosh County;

• voted 20-1 to return to committee a bill that expands the membership of the tribal gaming operations authority board from three to five members.

Voting against the measure was **Gillespie**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes;

• approved unanimously (21-0) to supplement the environmental services administration budget;

• approved (16-5) to allow the administration to expend funds from the farm authority line item.

Voting against the measure were: **R. Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **Gillespie**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; and **Wheeler**, Creek;

• voted unanimously (21-0) to amend NCA 94-16, a cultural presentation act providing funds to tribal ceremonial grounds. The bill was amended to increase the funding amount from $15,000 to $22,500 and add **New Tulsa** while eliminating **Gar Creek**.

Tribal jurist sits on panel

TULSA — Muscogee Nation District Court Judge Pat Moore was a panelist discussing full faith and credit doctrine of relations between federal, tribal, and state governments at the ninth annual sovereignty symposium held in June.

"My approach was to look back to 1400 A.D. and give an overview of the Iroquois Confederacy," Moore said. "Each separate nation of the confederacy recognized the sovereignty of the other."

Moore said the confederacy was the first federal government in the world to employ the full faith and credit doctrine in its legislative deliberations.

"The U.S. Government patterned itself on the Iroquois, including veto power. We have come full circle to reflect the Muscogee Nation, Oklahoma, and the federal governments extending full faith and credit in the same manner as the Iroquois Confederacy did in 1400 and prior to that."

The Muscogee Nation Supreme Court issued its full faith and credit order in 1993. In that order, the tribal court granted full faith and credit for any foreign judgement from a tribal, state, or federal court provided those same courts recognize the Muscogee judgements. The Oklahoma Supreme Court ordered its full faith and credit extended to tribal courts in 1994.

Moore said if a citizen gets a judgement from tribal court, it can be enforced by a state course and the reverse is true. Moore noted the Muscogee Nation was the first tribe to file its rules and procedures with the Oklahoma Supreme Court.

"Some [non-tribal entitities] come straight to the Muscogee Nation District Court and file," Moore said. "If we don't allow that, [institutions] will quit loaning money to tribal citizens. That will affect those that do repay loans."

Moore said the tribal judiciary is now a member of the judicial council of federal, tribal, and state trial judges. He said Chief Judge Stephanie Seymour of 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals is interested in Indian law and called tribal judges together. Federal decisions issued in Oklahoma are appealed to the tenth circuit in Denver, Colo.

"She's a very gracious lady and it is good for us to participate when she invites us," Moore said. "I was honored to be picked for the sovereignty symposium and I hope to make it a continuing education program."

Moore, a tribal citizen, has been tribal district court judge since 1987.

Assisitive technology for disabled

TULSA — Muscogee citizen Lahoma Schultz, a counselor with the Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services, has completed a workshop on the tech act, a federal law that provides individuals with disabilities information on how assistive technology can assist a person to live more independently. Schultz will be providing the Tulsa and surrounding area with information about assistive technology. For more information, can contact Schultz or Shirley Bryant at (918) 581-2301.

Cleghorn recuperating

TULSA — Tulsa District representative Irene Cleghorn is home recuperating from a broken hip she incurred from a fall at the Miss Mvskoke Nation Pageant in June.

"I want to thank all who visited me, sent cards, flowers, and prayers while I was at St. Francis Hospital," Cleghorn said.

Councilman seeks seat

OKMULGEE — Muscogee National Council Representative A.D. Ellis is seeking a seat in the Oklahoma Silver Haired Legislature. Ellis of Twin Hills, is seeking a house seat representing district 2-4 which includes several counties.

Ellis is an Okmulgee District representative to the tribal Council and is currently serving his third term. The silver haired legislature is comprised of Oklahomans age 60 and older who are elected to two-year terms. The group works on the state's planning for senior citizens and uses a model legislature as a means to educate people over age 60 about the legislative process.

The seniors' legislature also serves as a forum for Oklahoma seniors to discuss those issues relevant to their political agenda. Two senators and four representatives are selected from each district. Ellis seeks to represent the district comprised of Adair, Cherokee, McIntosh, Muskogee, Sequoyah, and Wagoner counties. The statewide election for the silver haired legislature is July 30. For more information, call 1 (800) 211-2116.

"My mother was kind of sick and I was kind of aggravating to her so she filed her land in a hurry and it fell on the mountain up there, on Limbo. She filed on the river up north and west of Lenna — the best 160 in Oklahoma."

— PINK RUMSEY

Allottees' 78-year marriage weathered by years; stengthened with time.

TOUGH LOVE

story and photos by Stephanie Berryhill

This era of singles advertising, video dating, and the $125 divorce, may well mark relationships of the last twenty years as being devoid of our grandparents ideals about marriage.

In a rural McIntosh County community, predominantly unscathed by modern technology, live Pink and Lillie Rumsey — a testament to love that has been weathered and strengthened by 78 years of consideration and persistence.

Having both grown up northwest of Stidham, it's hard for the two original allottees to recollect memories singularly. From the time Pink and Lillie were born, their two lives were intertwined into the fiber of the community's religious, social, and work structure.

Lillie was born to Henson and Nancy Morrison on May 9, 1901, her family homeplace being located near Little Coweta Baptist Church. Being the child of a Muscogee father and non-Indian mother, Lillie never learned the Mvskoke language. Although the singing of her father is a memory that has not diminished over 95 years. "You could hear him from here to Lenna. He liked to sing them Creek songs; it's the only thing you ever heard him sing."

Pink's cousin, Katie Hawkins, and Lillie were best friends. With the two cousins living just a few miles east of Little Coweta, all three grew up playing together and getting into mischief at the church grounds. Lillie recalled one time when she and the high-spirited Katie enjoyed a turn of the century joy ride at the expense of Granny [Cinda] Hawkins.

"Granny was in where they were having church. Katie came out there and we just lived over the fence from the church. Katie said 'Lillie, come here. Let's take a little ride.' I said 'Okay' and I run out there and jumped in the buggy and we went [around the section] and come back through Lenna. We got up to church house and granny was standing out there with a stick in her hand. She was going to whip Katie. 'Let them horses rest,' she said 'let them horses rest!'"

"Me and Katie was together all the time. Katie was a really pretty girl. She'd come up there and stay all night with me; I'd come down here [the Hawkins homeplace] and stay all night with her."

Even before their marriage, Lillie had supported his family through two tragedies — the death of Pink's father and Katie's consumption by pneumonia at age 17.

His father, from whom he inherited his unique namesake, was a non-Indian who had become accepted in the community of predominantly Muscogee people. "He talked good Creek. He was raised up with the Indians right here. He loved Indians more than white people," Pink said. Thus the elder Pink Rumsey married a girl from a Muscogee family that lived just east of the Rumsey place — Louiza Hawkins, one of many first generation Muscogee people to have been born in Indian Territory. Although his grandfather [Sam Hawkins] had died before his birth, Pink recounts oral history and stories of Hawkins as told by his grandmother [Cinda Hawkins]. Though he may question the integrity of his great-grandfather, a cohort of Chief William McIntosh, he makes no qualms about truth of

"Pink was real nice looking; all the girls liked Pink, but he picked me."

— LILLIE MORRISON RUMSEY

what he was told.

"She told me these words and I remember just as well as if it was yesterday. She said when that trail of tears was... Sam Hawkins came with that drove of people — she said he was a little boy about 10 or 11 year old. And she said, down there in Alabama, Sam Hawkins' father was a secretary and a man by the name of McIntosh was the chief[1] . And said they sold them [Muscogee people] out. That's how come they didn't have anything; they sold them out! And she said they [Okfuskee Tribal Town Second Chief Menawa and warriors] caught them on the top story [of McIntosh's home] and burned the building — burned them up in that building[2]. She said that's what Sam Hawkins told her. When he was a little boy, she said everybody liked him. Them [federal] soldiers liked him and they'd give him money and he'd take some ponies and feed them or water them or tend to them and they'd give him money.... She said Sam Hawkins said they [federal army soldiers] sure treated some of them awful bad, beat them to death. The [soldiers] killed them [Mvskoke people] everywhere they could if they didn't do right, right quick."

Pink was born May 12, 1900, the same year that a tribal delegation went to Washington D.C. to make a new agreement with the Dawes Commission. He is fully aware of the implications of his allottee status. He recalls oil-rich allottees such as Eastman Richard and Aggie Fox having made their fortunes through their land, yet he boasts the best allotment in the state.

"She [his mother] had to go do the filing...and I was kind of sick and they had to go to Muskogee to do it. My mother was kind of sick and I was kind of aggravating to her so she filed her land in a hurry and it fell on the mountain up there, on Limbo [Creek]. She filed on the river up north and west of Lenna — the best 160 [acres] in Oklahoma."

He is not alone in this opinion as the renowned Limbo Creek-born Muscogee poet and journalist Alexander Posey gave the Tulledega Hills much acclaim in his poetry.

Pink's mother died of tuberculosis shortly after filling for his allotment, leaving family to care for seven-month-old Pink. Raised by his family, he only knew of his mother what was recollected in the memories of others. It's evident that those memories have become a part of Lillie's life also; she points to an apple tree outside their kitchen window retelling the story of how baby Pink was rocked underneath it as his only source of comfort after his mother's death.

By their teens, Lillie, and many other young ladies, began to take notice of handsome, young Pink. "Pink was real nice looking; all the girls liked Pink, but he picked me."

Courtship was a natural progression for the youngsters' friendship and soon Katie wasn't the only family member that was frequenting the Morrison home. Pink's horse, "Blue," could be seen hitched up outside the home regularly.

"When he'd come and see me he could put something on that saddlehorn and say 'Blue, now watch it.' And Pink would just dare someone to try and get it and Blue would kick at them."

On Aug. 4, 1917 Pink borrowed a buggy, hitched up his team, and wed Lillie at Fame. He brought her to his homeplace where they have resided since. "We finished wearing out the old house, we built another one and are about to wear it out," Lillie laughed.

They attribute the longevity of their marriage and lives to kindness and hard work. A rancher by trade, Pink still maintains a large garden.

The Rumseys have three children — Jack, "Buddy," 75; Louise "Sister" McIntosh, 73; and Pink Jr., "John," 59. They have eight grandchildren and two more generations of descendents whose numbers they are uncertain of.

On the Rumsey mantle sits a photograph snapped some 80 years ago; young Lillie is indefinitely captured, striking a pose by the fenceline. The girl wears youthful hopes, dreams, and a purple dress — Lillie says she was waiting for Pink and smiles knowing it was worth the wait.

Editor's note: According to "The Road to Disappearance," Angie Debo, Sam Hawkins, a mixed blood who had married the daughter of McIntosh, was hanged in the square of one of the lower towns at noon, Feb. 12, 1825. His brother, Ben Hawkins, also a son-in-law of McIntosh and a member of the treaty party was shot by Hillabee Tribal Town members, but escaped and eventually settled with a band of Cherokees in Texas.[1]

After McIntosh signed the Treaty of Indian of Indian Springs Feb. 12, 1825, in which southeastern tribal lands were sold, the Creek Council ordered the death of McIntosh and other chiefs that signed the treaty. Menawa was selected as executioner.[2]

Creek

Festival '96

Principal Chief Perry Beaver visits with original allottee Gladys Bell, Glenpool, at a Festival reception held for elders.

Chief Beaver greets Salt Creek Church mother and original allottee Nancy Beaver while his wife, Mariam, visits with reception attenders.

Miss Mvskoke (Creek) Nation 1996-97 Bobbie Frye

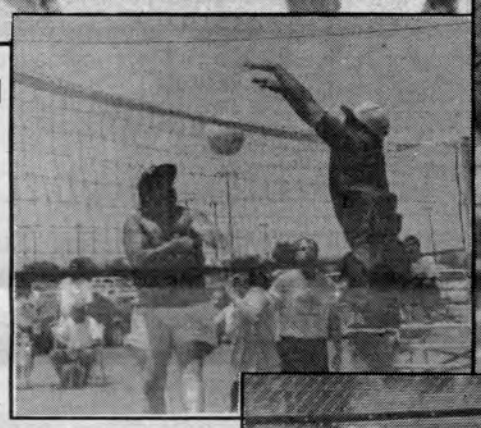
5k start line

Ada Harmonettes at the gopel singing

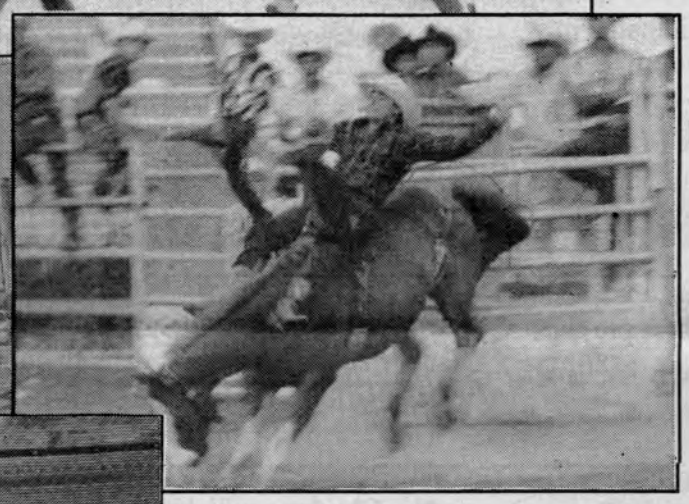
Newtown pastor Dave Long Jr. leads tribal officials in prayer at the groundbreaking for the proposed tribal plaza. Those attending were: community services director Edwin Marshall; Tulsa District Representative Jesse Kelley; Second Chief George Almerigi; state rep. Glen Johnson; Muskogee District Rep. Helen Chupco; Principal Chief Perry Beaver; MMCN Bobbie Frye; Speaker Wilbur Gouge; Okmulgee District Reps. Dave Lewis and Anderson Hale; Okfuskee District Rep. Nancy Watson; Tukvpvtce District Rep. Dwayne Lowe; and McIntosh District Rep. Thomas McIntosh.

Ivan Bear shoots the rock against a pressing defense — Shawn Hill and Frank Lena — while three-on-three team member Ronnie Burnside (third from left) looks on.

Slammin' and jammin' at the Hoopsfest '96 slam dunk contest

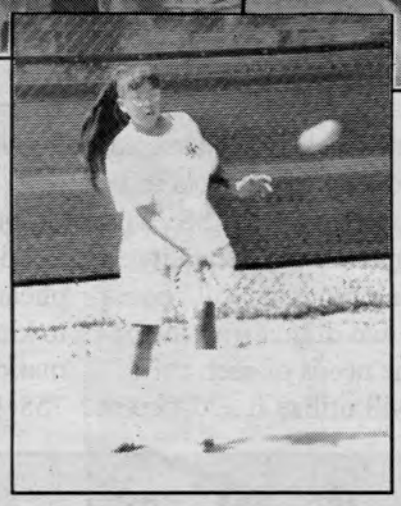


Volleyball

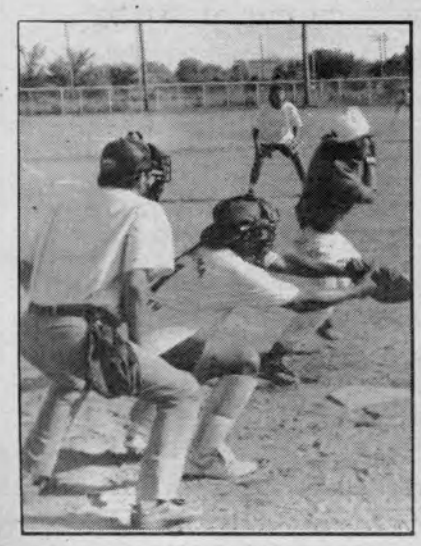


Bronc riding

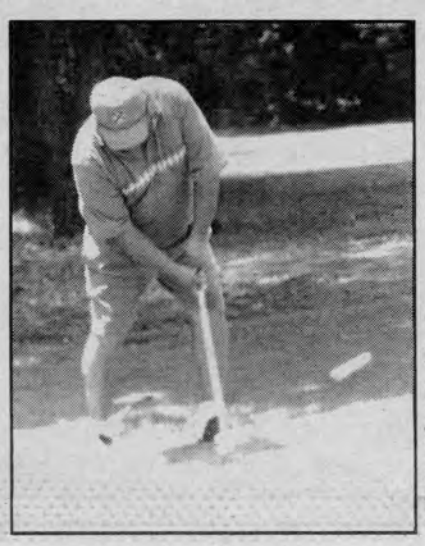
Tribal citizen Jean Hill Chaudhuri during her presentation of the "Four Seasons of a Mvskoke Woman"



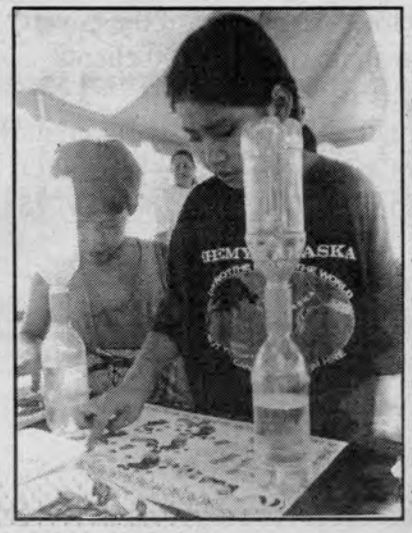
Tasha Morgan, Muskogee, pummels the ball back at her opponet during the tennis tournament.



Men's fastpitch



Glen Harjo, Oklahoma City, chips on the 18th hole at Arrowhead State Park.



Rosanna Wassana and her brother, Lehomahte, Okemah, fingerpaint at the tribal office of child care's booth setup for children at the festival.

Program briefs

Energy assistance applications accepted

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Social Services will begin accepting low income home energy assistance program (LIHEAP) applications for American Indian peoples in need of assistance with electric bills.

To qualify for LIHEAP the following requirements must be met:

- provision of head of household's certificate degree of Indian blood card;
- provisions of all household residents' social security card numbers;
- provision of total household income verification including — Social Security, Social Security Disability, Aid for Dependent Children;
- provision of document that establishes electric bill is in head of household's name;
- provision of residency within Muscogee Nation tribal boundaries; and
- must not have previously participated in other energy assistance programs with like funding for electric bill assistance.

Applications can be made at the Muscogee Nation Social Services office from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the tribal capitol complex, U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56.

Individuals that are uncertain as to what programs they may have qualified for previously may contact social services at: 1 (800) 482-1979; or (918) 756-8700.

WIC program soliciting comments

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Women Infants and Children program is soliciting comments from individuals regarding the special supplemental program for WIC. Input is needed for the state plan of program operations for fiscal year 1997. These comments must be received before Aug. 1.

The federally-funded nutrition program provides nutritional education and supplemental program for low-income, pregnant, breastfeeding, and postpartum women, infants, and children up to five years of age. The program accepts individuals that are determined to be at nutritional risk and whose incomes fall below 185 percent of the poverty level. There are approximately 700 clients served monthly.

Comments regarding the WIC program may be addressed to: Muscogee Nation WIC, P.O. Box 2158, Okmulgee, OK 74447 or (918) 758-2722.

The WIC program is an equal opportunity program available to eligible persons without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, or handicap.

photo by Gerald Wofford

Tribal officials and others gathered at the site of the proposed travel plaza in Okmulgee for a groundbreaking ceremony June 22. Pictured from left are: Second Chief George Almerigi; Oklahoma state representative and Congressional candidate Glenn Johnson; National Council Representative Helen Chupco; Principal Chief Perry Beaver; and Miss Mvskoke (Creek) Nation Bobbye Frye.

Tribe to open early learning center for children

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Nation Office of Child Care will open an early learning center that will accommodate 35 children at the tribal capitol complex by September.

The learning center will provide care for a child's social, emotional, cognitive, and cultural needs. Children will learn about tribal culture through storytellers, the alphabet, and understanding basic Mvskoke words. Other subjects to be taught include cultural diversity in the U.S., dangers of gender bias, and male-female equality.

Children in the learning program will choose from art, science, math, and drama with the objective being to fulfill the needs of each child.

The learning center will utilize five different learning styles: linguistic; special; logistical; kinesthetic; and musical. Children will also be taught on computers to enhance hand-eye coordination, pre-reading and math skills, and fine motor skills.

The center is based on learning by playing within a structured environment. Playing is a natural learning experience that induces problem solving. A child's full potential may not be reached if he or she is denied the opportunity for play, Gina Brandt, child care coordinator.

The office of child care is currently taking applications for this program. Children from infants to kindergarten may be eligible. For more information, contact the office of child care at (918) 758-1463.

Community briefs

Twin Hills community to meet

TWIN HILLS — Twin Hills Indian Community will meet July 22 at Concharty United Methodist Church beginning at 7:30 p.m. Applications for community membership are available. The community is requiring all members to have an application on file. The community will also meet Aug. 19 at 7:30 p.m.

Tulsa Mvskokvlke art market

TULSA — Tulsa Mvskokvlke Community is having an art market in conjunction with the Muscogee Nation-City of Tulsa Council Oak Ceremony begining at noon, Sept. 14 at the community center, 8611 S. Union.

An invitation is extended to all citizens, individuals, communities, and ceremonial grounds to participate. Event organizers would like to have *sofke* corn, lye, *apvske,* and other similar items available for sale.

The market will feature a contest in four divisions— traditional sewing, art, jewelry and beadwork. Cash prizes will be awarded for the work deemed the best and for best display. Items must be entered by 10 a.m. to be eligible for competition.

For more information, contact Toske Willits at (918) 445-1155.

Muscogee students

Citizen receives juris doctorate degree

OAKLAND, Calif. — Tribal citizen Faith Jacobs Pemberton Castles received a juris doctorate degree from John F. Kennedy University School of Law June 16. Castles is a graduate of Chilocco Indian School. She is the daughter of Edith Walker Jacobs and the late Johnny Jacobs of Pierce.

Tribal citizen receives bachelor's degree

EDMOND — Tribal citizen Susan Hope Foreman received a bachelor of science degree in general studies with a minor in business from the University of Central Oklahoma on May 10. She is the daughter of Ray Gene Prater and the late Eula J. Prater. Her grandparents are Edith Walker Jacobs and the late Johnny Jacobs of Pierce.

Citizen receives doctorate from Harvard

BOSTON — Tribal citizen Brent Oliver Hale Jr. recently received a doctorate of medicine from Harvard Medical School. Hale was a recipient of the Native American Health Organization Multiculturalism and Diversity Award. He also was past president of NAHO and cofounder of Four Directions Summer Research Program — a program for Indian students considering careers in medicine. Hale will be serving a four-year residency with The University of Oklahoma Health Science Center in the field of emergency medicine. He and his wife, Monica, have two children, Jessica and Adam.

Hale

Hale is the son of Brent and Bernice Hale. His maternal grandparents are the late Bennie Lewis Harjo and Lonie Givens Harjo Lowe.

Citizen graduates from high school

ROCK SPRINGS, Wyo. — Anthony W. Hale Jr. graduated from Rock Springs High School recently. The honor roll student plans to attend Colorado State University, Ft. Collins, to pursue premed studies. Hale is the son of Anthony and Debbie Hale, Rock Springs. His maternal grandparents are Bernice Watson, Bristow, and Curtis Lunsford, Okmulgee. Paternal grandparents are Brent and Bernice Hale, Okmulgee.

Hale

Citizen receives Haskell scholarship

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Haskell Indian Nations University has named tribal citizen Melinda K. Tiger a recipient of the Evelyn Tally Scholarship for the 1996-97 school year.

Tiger, an accounting major, was awarded the Haskell Scholastic Excellence Award for 1996-97 also. Among her other scholastic achievements are: president's honor roll, 1995-96; "New Freshman Award," fall 1995; Jennifer Gibson Memorial Scholarship, Owasso High School. Tiger maintains a 4.0 grade point average.

She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Artman Tiger, Owasso. Paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Jim Gutierrez, Bristow; maternal grandparents are the late Rev. C.D. and Marie Harjo.

Girl graduates among top ten percent

BROKEN BOW — Muscogee tribal member Shanna Rae Jones graduated among the top ten percent of her Broken Bow Middle School class.

Jones

Jones, a member of Oklahoma Honor Society, has maintained a 3.91 grade point average. The 14-year-old is the daughter of Billy Ray and Marcella Jones. She is the granddaughter of Lucille Bear, Henryetta, and Martha Jones, Broken Bow.

Citizen graduates from middle school

PRESTON — Tribal citizen Minniffee Wilson graduated from Preston Middle School May 7. Among sports she participated in during her eighth grade year were: basketball; softball; volleyball; track; and shot putt. She is the daughter of John and Lucinda Wilson. She is the granddaughter of Nicey and the late Solomon Wilson.

Konawa girl selected to dance squad

KONAWA — Tribal citizen Crissy Fixico was selected to be a repeat member of Konawa High School's "T-Stepper" dance squad.

The dance group performs during high school sporting events and at dance competitions throughout the state. The "T-Steppers" won the Class 2-A Division state title this year — marking its seventh consecutive win. Fixico will be a sophomore. She participates in: cross country track; band; basketball. She is a Future Homemakers of America and class office holder also. She is an active member of Spring Baptist Church, Sasakwa.

Fixico

Fixico is the daughter of Dee Jesse and Chris Fixico. Her grandparents are Nancy and Charlie "Sox" Fixico, Konawa, and Betty and the late Ben Jesse, Bowlegs.

Girl honored with awards at JOM banquet

KONAWA — Kaylee Fixico was awarded three honors at the Konawa Johnson O'Malley honors banquet. Fixico received a certificate for "quality worker," and "quality cub" — awards commending classroom behavior, grade point average, and turning in assignments on time. She received a plaque for "highest academic achievement honor" also. Fixico, eight, will be a third-grader. Her hobbies include riding horses and playing softball. She is an active member of Spring Baptist Church, Sasakwa. Fixico is the daughter of Dee Jesse and Chris Fixico. Her grandparents are Betty and the late Ben Jesse, Bowlegs, and Nancy and Charlie "Sox" Fixico, Konawa.

Fixico

Student attends math and science camp

STILLWATER — Preston sophomore Shawna O'Neal was recently selected to attend a month-long math and science camp at Oklahoma State University, sponsored by American Indian Science Technology Education Consortium and the university Native American student association.

The curriculum involved lectures and discussions on topics in mathematics and statistics, use of computers, chemistry, and biology, field work in biology and laboratory experiences. Camp participants took field trips to Red Earth and the Aerospace Science and Technology Center in Oklahoma City. O'Neal is a member of her high school basketball, softball, and track teams. She is listed on the superintendent's honor roll also. O'Neal is the daughter of Shawn and Barbara O'Neal, Twin Hills. Her grandparents are Richard and Annie Mae O'Field, Twin Hills, and Irene O'Neal, Tulsa.

O'Neal

Clinton student selected for leadership award

TULSA — Clinton Middle School student Crystal Marie Roy was selected for a national leadership and service award in March. A part of this honor included a trip to Washington D.C. where she was selected to lay a wreath on the tomb of the Unknown Solder.

Among her other achievements are: Oklahoma Honor Society; president education award program; student of the month; 1995-96 student of the year; and outstanding achievement of school service; and language arts and math awards.

She is the daughter of Johnny L. Roy and Donna Johnson Tulsa. Her grandparents are Frank and the late Bertha L. Harjo Johnson. Her great-grandmother is Lucinda L. Walkingstick.

Roy

People in the news

Bradley Hill

TULSA — Bradley Austin Hill was born March 18 at St. Francis Hospital to Sonny and Jacque Hill of Glenpool.

Hill weighed 8 pounds, 4 ounces and was 19 and one-half inches in length.

Hill

Maternal grandparents are Melba Williams, Glenpool, and Joe Skeeter, Mounds.

Paternal grandparents are Wanda Jean Hill, Sapulpa, and Eunice Hill, Henryetta.

Great-grandparents are the late Jimmie and Sadie Skeeter, Mounds, and Gertrude and the late Riley John, Sapulpa.

Girl to compete in little miss beauty pageant

KANSAS CITY, Kan. — Tribal citizen Jessica Whitby is a state finalist in the Little Miss Kansas Beauty Pageant and will be competing for the state title in July.

Whitby

She likes sports, animals, reading, art, and entertaining. Whitby has a sister, Jennifer, 12, and a brother, Jason, nine. She is the daughter of Becky Butler Whitby.

She is the granddaughter of Ramsey and Emily Butler of Wetumka.

Tribal citizen among top five bullriding youth

WELTY — Tribal citizen Nathan Whitson has placed among the top five in the Oklahoma Junior Rodeo Association this year.

The sixteen-year-old Mason Public Schools student hopes to become a world champion bull rider. Whitby participated in the Creek Nation Festival Rodeo most recently.

Whitson

He is currently a participant in the tribal Job Training Partnership Act summer youth program — working at Creek Nation Housing Authority's low income housing project in Okemah.

Whitson is the son of Dee and Sharon Henry and the grandson of Thomas Allen and Aggie Conner Whitson.

Relatives of allottee Mary Gouge (seated in front row) observed her 91st birthday with a party at Harvest Time Tabernacle, Holdenville. Pictured with Gouge are second row, from left: Isaac Cherry; RanDee Cherry; Della Cherry; Robin Harrison; Rachel Vance; Sarah Vance; and Ronda Vance. Back row from left, Noma Wolfe; Jim Wolfe; Ron Cherry; Jason Harrison; and Tyler Harrison.

photo by Jim Wolfe

Community news

Checotah announces scholarship recipients

CHECOTAH — Checotah Indian Community announces that Drew Ledbetter and Scott Stidham are the recipients of its outstanding Indian student scholarships.

Each boy will receive $1,000 scholarship awards.

In other community news:

• continuing education funds are available for adults at least 25 years of age that qualify; and

• elders hold potluck luncheons on the third Tuesday of each month.

Eufaula site holds Father's Day activities

EUFAULA — The Muscogee Nation Eufaula nutrition center staff held a Father's Day dinner with activities June 13.

Fathers receiving caps for various distinctions were:

• eldest father, Washie Lewis;

• youngest father, Dugan McIntosh; and

• father of most children, Tony Mitchell.

Those receiving door prizes complements of McDonalds, Eufaula, were: Buck Derrisaw; Walter Pittman; and Raymond Beaver.

Most fathers attending received gift certificates donated by McDonalds also.

Indian print bandanas were given to all attending fathers, as well as were sent out to fathers on the delivery route compliments of the site community.

The Eufaula site staff express their gratitude to the following: McDonalds; cook Millie Colbert; cook's aide Carolyn Walker; and tribal Job Training Partnership Act summer youth program participants Jamie Walker and A. J. Francis.

Reunions

Day reunion to be held at Nichols Park

HENRYETTA — The descendents of Cynthia Day are holding a family reunion beginning at 10 a.m., Aug. 3 at Nichols Park.

Those attending the potluck reunion are encouraged to bring lawn chairs. Tournaments such as horseshoes and volleyball will be played.

For more information, call Mary Hobia at: (405) 786-2570.

Marshall family reunion

WETUMKA — The descendents of Lewis and Mandy Marshall are holding a family reunion beginning at 10 a.m., Sept. 2 at the Wetumka Indian Community Center.

For more information, call Edwin Marshall at: (918) 756-8700, ext. 391.

Tribal member named Tulsa Indian club princess

TULSA — Muscogee tribal member Michelle Bible has been named Intertribal Indian Club of Tulsa Princess for 1996-97. A senior at Miami High School, Bible is an honor student, a member of the National Honor Society, and Who's Who In American High Schools.

Bible is also active in the Miami High School Marching Band and the Native American Student Association.

She is the daughter of Dana and Nora Bible of Miami and the granddaughter of Gene Bible.

The Intertribal Indian Club of Tulsa Powwow of Champions is Aug. 9 through 11 at the Tulsa Fairgrounds, 21st and Pittsburg streets.

Muscogee obituaries

THELMA CORNFELD

HIGHLAND, Calif. — Private cremation services were held June 7 for Thelma Nolen Cornfeld

Cornfeld died at her residence in Redlands on June 5.

She was born May 3, 1924 in Okmulgee to Jesse James and Flora May Nolen. She was a retired department supervisor for Operating Engineers Local 12 in Los Angeles.

Cornfeld was preceded in death by: her parents; four sisters, Imojean West, Betty Nolen, Virginia Lovelace, and Ruth Perkins; one brother, Fred Nolen; and a son, Samuel Aaron Cornfeld.

She is survived by: a daughter, Barbara A. Cornfeld, Redlands; a sister, Nadine Whitfield, Bakersfield, Calif.; and a brother, Frank Nolen, Lancaster, Calif.

LEONARD HENNEHA

Funeral services for Leonard Lee Wayne Henneha Sr. were held May 11 at the Tiger Family home place with several tribal town leaders officiating.

Henneha was born May 26, 1959 in Claremore to Harry and Christine Wind Henneha of Okemah. He died May 8 in Tulsa.

Henneha was an Okfuskee County Deputy Sheriff. He was of the Baptist faith. Henneha, full blood Creek, was a member of Nuyaka Tribal Town and the Wind Clan. Henneha was a lifelong resident of Okemah.

He was preceded in death by: his father; one brother, Harry James; a sister, Betty Boatman; and a grandmother, Melissa Harjo Tiger.

Survivors include: his mother; wife, Betty, of the home; one son, Leonard, of the home; three daughters, Monique, of the home, Vanessa, Tiesha, and Mindy, all of Seminole; one brother, Charles "Chuck" Henneha, Wewoka; six sisters, Elsia Martin, Holdenville, Lucille Joshua, Okmulgee, Wanda Buckley, Oklahoma City, Earnestine Henneha, Patricia Henneha, and Valerie Littlecreek, all of Okemah; and several nieces; and nephews.

EDNA TIEBEN

CHATSWORTH, Calif. — Graveside services for Edna Betty Tieben were held May 17 at Oakwood Memorial Park Cemetery with Rev. Glen Kirby officiating.

She was born Nov. 5, 1905 in Eufaula, Indian Territory to Abe and Jemima Kite. Tieben died May 11 in Carson City, Nev.

Tieben was educated at Haskell Institute and taught school in Leupe, Ariz. She was retired from Lockheed Aircraft. Tieben had moved to Carson City where she spent her final years.

She was preceded in death by her husband, John Tieben, in 1973.

Survivors include: a sister, Lucy McGilbray, Richland, Wyo.; a brother, Lee Cruz Kite, Bronx, N.Y.; and five children, John Tieben, Pahrump, Nev., Richard Tieben and Barbara Morrow, both of Carson City, Betsy Ratner, Truckee, Calif., and Marc Tieben, Las Vegas, Nev.; 15 grandchildren; and 19 great-grandchildren.

MAE TULSA

SAPULPA — Funeral services for Mae Tulsa were held May 21 at Pickett Chapel United Methodist Church with Revs. Jerry Baker and Jake Wildcat officiating.

Tulsa died May 18 at her home after a long-suffering illness with diabetes. She was born May 1, 1921.

Tulsa was an active, lifetime member of Pickett Chapel. She was an active member of the United Methodist Women, having held office in the organization. Tulsa was full-blood Yuchi and enjoyed quilting and cooking.

She was preceded in death by: her mother, Sakie Bighead; two brothers, Theadore and Konzie Bighead; one sister, Juanita Berryhill; one son, Joe Monroe Tulsa; one daughter, Marilyn Tulsa; two grandsons, Direck Timentwa and Joe Choate.

She is survived by: her husband, July Tulsa, of the home; four daughters, Gloria Ware, Coweta, Genelle Myer and Juanita Thompson, both of Mounds, Katherine Tulsa, Tulsa, and three sons, Garry E. Berryhill and Jonathon Tulsa, both of Mounds, Anthony Tulsa, Tulsa; 15 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers were: Gilbert Mathews; Fred Sapulpa; Larry Long; Bryan Rowe; Dennis Barnett; and Gene Bigpond.

Interment was in South Heights Cemetery in Sapulpa.

PAULINE YAHOLA

OKLAHOMA CITY — Pauline Yahola died May 24.

She was born Sept. 25, 1932 to Freeman Proctor and Alice Simpson.

She attended school at: Goodland Academy; Eufaula Boarding School; Bacone College; and Haskell Institute.

Yahola had been employed at J.B. Battle Uniform Company for 28 years, having retired because of illness.

She had converted to Christianity and was a member of Trenton Indian Baptist Church. Her favorite hymns were: "*Momis Komet Vpeyakvres*;" "*Hvlwe Tvlofv Min Ayaranis*;" "Victory in Jesus;" and "Amazing Grace."

She had been married to her husband, Miller, for 43 years.

She was preceded in death by: her parents and one sister, Beatrice Meely.

Yahola is survived by: her husband, of the home; three daughters, Augustine Francis, Mildred Yahola, and Patsy Tiger, all of Oklahoma City; two sons, Samuel and Daniel, both of Oklahoma City; four brothers, Charlie Proctor, Dustin, Woody Proctor, Stidham, Washie Proctor, Meeker, Jonas Proctor, Oklahoma City; 15 grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; friends; and relatives.

Religious briefs

United tribes to hold fund-raiser

OKEMAH — United Tribes for Christ Fellowship is holding a gospel singing, flea market, and food sale Aug. 3 at Okemah Indian Community Center.

The flea market will begin at 8 a.m; a $5 booth fee donation is requested . The food sale will begin at 10:30 a.m. and the gospel singing will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Proceeds will be used to assist the group in obtaining tax exemption status.

The community center is located two blocks south of Interstate 40 on state highway 27.

For more information, call (405) 677-2335.

Deep Fork Hillabee gospel singing

ONAPA — Deep Fork Hillabee Baptist Church is holding a gospel singing at 7 p.m., Aug. 10.

Dinner will be served from 5 to 5:30 p.m. The master of ceremonies will be Curtis Kinney.

Those attending should bring lawn chairs.

To get to the church, drive south of Checotah on U.S. Highway 69 and exit at Onapa. Turn right at dirt road , drive one mile north, turn west, then turn left.

Many Springs to hold annual singing

HOLDENVILLE — Many Springs Baptist Church will hold its annual gospel singing at 7:30 p.m., Aug. 10.

Some of the featured groups are: Battiest Indian Family; The Revelators; The Buck Family; Native Gospel Trio; Lakeside Trio; The Tribesmen; Heritage; Rufus Gourd Trio; Sounds of Faith; and Michelle Harjo.

Those attending should bring lawn chairs. Concessions will be available.

To get to the church, drive five miles south of Holdenville on state highway 48 and drive around the south end of the lake one mile.

Letters

continued from page 2

getting tired of footing the expenses for the existence of tribes.

In the late 70s we were given the self-determination act that was to enable us to prove we could become self-sufficient. In the 80s we were given our sovereignty as an avenue for economic development. It's been almost 20 years and we have not become self-sufficient. We still look to the federal government for close to 75 percent of our support.

When termination does come, I hope that our Nation will still have their culture and viable business enterprises. Tribes can and will be terminated in government aid and identity. A tribe cannot be terminated however, if their culture is still intact and they function as a visible people and nation. The future of our children and our Nation are at stake, and they should be our main concern.

Anita Cox, Oklahoma City

Editor's note: The National Council Tribal Affairs Committee held a public forum June 24 regarding a proposed resolution to repeal earlier resolutions that would allow the completion of a freeway near the aforementioned lands. The committee voted to let the latest resolution die.

Tribal veteran remembered

Editor:

Monroe Sulphur is no longer with us and his death is a sad loss to his family, friends, and the Mvskoke tribe. Monroe and I first met and became friends at Haskell Institute, Lawrence, Kan., in 1941 because it seemed all Creeks gravitated towards each other. We were so far from our homes and we needed this support, however tenuous, from our fellow tribesmen. I deemed Monroe as one of the nicest young men on campus, and he was well thought of by the students that knew him.

My most vivid recollection of Monroe is that he was a smiling person, very courteous, and very considerate. I remember the general assembly we had at Haskell to hear President Roosevelt's declaration of war against Germany and Japan on Dec. 8, 1941. After hearing the speech, we all wondered how this act of war would play in our lives. I can't recall if Monroe left school directly after Dec. 8, but he responded to his country's call by joining the Army.

We did not meet again until the early 1950s, and again I saw that Monroe still remained the pleasant, polite, smiling man even though he had gone through the horrors of WW II in the European Theater. When the concept of a Mvskoke War Veterans' Memorial was initiated, he became an enthusiastic member of the group working on the project. He believed so strongly in all veterans being honored that he and Phillip Coon visited several Indian cemeteries to list veterans' names. He even contacted equipment and concrete companies to obtain quotes on items that would be needed for memorial structures.

Monroe Sulphur did his duty for his country and later for his fellow tribal veterans. He is no longer with us and will be greatly missed, but we who counted him as friend feel we were blessed by knowing him.

Jorene Coker, Preston

Missionary conference makes appointments

ANTLERS — The announcement of appointments for the 1996-97 annual conference year was the last item on the agenda for the 1996 annual conference session of the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference of The United Methodist Church.

The 153rd session was held in the southeast district June 6 through 9.

Appointments for northeast district churches are:

- Billy Hooton — to be supplied;

Broken Arrow Cooperative Parish

- Broken Arrow — Harvey Williams;
- Davis and Haikey chapels — Bernadine Dowdy, lay missioner;
- Springtown — to be supplied by Newman Frank Jr.

Bristow Circuit

- Choska and Mutteloke — Jackie Davis
- Christ Chapel — Anita Phillips
- D. D. Etchieson — Mike Svitak
- Fife Memorial — Paul Samuels
- New Hope — Tim Byington
- Newtown — Dave Long Jr.

Okmulgee Cooperative Parish

- Big Cussetah and Concharty — Harry Long
- Little Cussetah and Honey Creek — July Tecumseh, lay missioner
- Pickett Chapel — Jerry Baker

Seminole Cooperative Parish

- Hitchitee and Salt Creek — Mike Harjo
- Kaney Chapel — Russell Coker, lay missioner
- Nagawee — to be supplied
- Stilwell Mission — Steve Hance
- Tulsa Indian — Paulette Albright

Wetumka Cooperative Parish

- Thlopthlocco and Thewarley — Jerry Byrd
- Wewoka, Yeager Mission, Arbeka, and Springfield — David Wilde, lay missioner
- Canterbury Chapel — to be supplied by Meri Whitaker

Cherokee Cooperative Parish

- Cherokee, Cover's, and Stroh's chapels — Ray Keeter
- Grant Chapel — to be supplied by Jackson Deere

Citizen distinguished by Stanford as one of best writers in world

PALO ALTO, Calif. — Tribal citizen Eddie Chuculate has been selected as one of five fiction writers for the Stanford Creative Writing Program.

The writers selected are what the program considers the best writers in the world. Over 1,000 manuscripts were submitted from the U.S., Canada, Europe, India, Korea, and West Africa.

Chuculate's submission — 40 pages of an uncompleted novel , *Gathering Shadows* — deals with the relationship of American Indian couple who come from different upbringings — grassroots and urban.

The program requires no degree for admission. One requirement includes participation in a writing workshop; the fellows are required to attend twice weekly to read and criticize the writing of other members.

As a participant in the program — the Wallace E. Stegner Fellowship — he will receive a $35,000 stipend during the two-year residency.

Chuculate, 29, graduated from the Institute of American Indian Arts with an associate's degree in fine arts recently. The Mvskoke-Cherokee native of Jay began his career as a sports writer for the *Muskogee Daily Phoenix and Times-Democrat* and was sports editor for *The Okmulgee Daily Times*. Interested in pursuing a career change, he left Oklahoma to attend IAIA in the fall of 1994.

Chuculate plans to finish his novel while at Stanford. Excerpts from the book have been accepted for publication in literary journals *Many Mountains Moving* and *Weber Studies*.

Notices

Language course at Oklahoma City

OKLAHOMA CITY — Oklahoma City University and the Mvskoke Language Institute are offering a noncredit course in the Creek-Seminole language beginning Aug 27. Classes will be held Tuesday from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Instructors are George Bunny and Ted Isham. The class will be held on the campus at 2501 N. Blackwelder in the Loeffler Science Building. The class will be limited to 25 paying a $65 registration fee. To register call (405) 947-1853.

Language course at Stillwater

STILLWATER — Oklahoma State University and the Mvskoke Language Institute are offering a noncredit course in the Creek-Seminole language beginning Aug. 21. Classes will be held Wednesday evenings from 7:30 to 9:20. Instructors are George Bunny and Ted Isham. To register, call (405) 744-7077.

U.S. Border Patrol seeking applicants

WASHINGTON D.C. — The U.S. Border Patrol is seeking minority applicants. The patrol is the uniformed enforcement arm of the U.S. Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service.

Applicants must meet the following guidelines: be able to learn to read and speak Spanish; pass a background investigation; pass a drug test and medical examination; be a U.S. citizen; hold a valid driver's license; not have reached 37th birthday by hiring date; and have one year of experience demonstrating decisiveness under stressful situations, analytical ability, and work well with people or have a bachelor's degree in any field, or a combination of experience and college education.

To apply, call (912) 757-3001 anytime. All qualified applicants will be scheduled for a written test and an oral interview.

Coed softball tourney

OKMULGEE — A coed slow pitch softball tournament will be held July 26, 27, and 28 at the Muscogee Nation Omniplex softball fields, just west of U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56. Individual satin-finish jackets and t-shirts will be awarded to the top two teams. Entry fee is $100 by money order or cashier's check. Deadline for entry is July 24. For more information, contact Melissa Culley at (918) 756-8700, ext. 380, or Charley LaSarge at (918) 756-4961 after 5 p.m.

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Class action suit filed against Interior and Treasury departments

Native American Rights Fund leads in filing on behalf of 300,000 individual Indian account holders

WASHINGTON — A class action law suit on behalf of 300,000 individual Indian account holders against the U.S. Secretary of Interior was filed in June. The suit seeks a full accounting of the Bureau of Indian Affairs trust fund which has handled billions of dollars — rents and royalties paid for the use of Indian land.

The Native American Rights Fund, with other attorneys, filed suit against the federal government for their alleged failure to manage properly monies in the Individual Indian Money (IIM) account holders. The suit was filed in federal district court for the District of Columbia.

Among the allegations against the U.S. include:

- failure to install an adequate accounting system to manage IIM accounts;
- failure to keep adequate records for IIM accounts;
- failure to protect and invest IIM funds to maximize the return for account holders; and
- willful and deliberate destruction of records that would show government's breach of trust.

It is not news that the federal government has breached the trust of some IIM account holders. In 1994, Congress enacted the American Indian Trust Fund Management Reform Act of 1994 (Public Law 103-412) in an attempt to rectify the mismanagement.

Indians, directly and through representative groups such as the Intertribal Monitoring Association for Trust Funds, were responsible for the passage of the reform act.

The act amended 25 U.S.C. 162a by adding a new subsection (d) which defines the Interior Secretary's "discharge of trust responsibilities." Title III of PL 103-412 creates a new position; the office of special trustee for American Indians. This new position is established within the Interior Department and is responsible for the oversight and coordination of reforms including those for the BIA, Minerals Management Services, and Bureau of Land Management.

The special trustee is Paul Holman. He was appointed only after endorsement and acquiescence of prominent Indian groups like IMATF. Plaintiffs contend Holman has attempted to fulfill his Congressional mandate and alleges those efforts have been obstructed by other Interior officials and undermined by Congress's unwillingness to appropriate funds to fix the system. Holman asked for $47 million to reform the IIM account system. The House Appropriations Subcommittee for Interior allocated $1 million.

The federal government is required by law to manage assets owned by individual Indians. The funds are derived from various sources including lands allotted to and owned by Indians and held in trust for them by the U.S.

In the Muskogee area, there are no problems of the magnitude alleged by NARF. Officials at the BIA Muskogee Area Office said they have 12,716 active accounts generating more than $42 million annually. Bureau of Indian Affairs Okmulgee Agency Superintendent Jimmy Gibson says the BIA would "seem to be on top of [the accounts]."

"There are 1,900 accounts at the Okmulgee agency and we're accountable for about $4 million annually. We certify and locate these monies. Our agency function is customer service."

Gibson said the bureau, minerals management, and land management combined efforts and began holding meetings with IIM account holders on a quarterly basis to provide information and

please see **SUIT...**, page 11

Senate committee modifies Pryce amendment

WASHINGTON — The Senate Indian Affairs Committee approved legislation that will affect the adoption law for American Indian children in a July 24 meeting.

The Senate action followed passage of the U.S. House of Representatives bill that would have allowed state courts to determine whether a child is Indian and subject to the Indian Child Welfare Act.

The House bill was opposed by many tribes, including the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

The House bill was sponsored by Rep. Deborah Pryce (R-Ohio). She claimed her motivation for the bill was the case of an Ohio couple that adopted twin Indian girls. The adoption was complicated because the birth father did not claim Indian heritage. Price's amendment would have identified Indian children as tribal members when the birth parents are active members of the tribe with significant social, cultural, or political affiliations. It would have also prevented retroactive tribal membership.

The Senate version maintains the rights of tribes to determine whether a child is an Indian. The legislation also requires notification to tribes of adoption cases that could involve Indian children, establishes time limits for tribes to intervene, and makes it a criminal offense to conceal a child's Indian heritage.

The Indian Child Welfare Act was passed in 1978 to stop the adoption of Indian children by non-Indians without notifying the child's tribe.

The bill is said to be supported by President Clinton and is expected to be made law this fall.

Dates set for special election

OKMULGEE — Principal Chief Perry Beaver has set the dates for a special election to fill the vacancy of Muscogee National Council Tukvpvtce District Seat B. Elected representative Edwin Marshall resigned in June to become the deputy director of community services for the tribe.

Filing period for the seat is from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Aug. 19 through 21 at the election board office at the tribal capitol complex, U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56.

If necessary, the special primary election will be Sept. 28. The special general election will be Nov. 2. Candidates must be at least one-quarter Muscogee blood quantum as well as comply with other provisions of the election code.

For more information, contact the election board at (918) 756-8700, exts. 350 and 349.

Letters to the editor

Coordinator offers thanks

Editor:

Muscogee youth from across Oklahoma were in attendance at the first summer youth gathering July 23. The event was sponsored by the Muscogee Nation Children and Family Services Administration in collaboration with public health nurses Cynthia Coachman and Janet Dockery and behavioral health specialist George Cosar.

A special thanks to Sam Proctor and the Tallahassee members for graciously accepting an invitation to display their traditional dance. I also want to thank the following who made contributions or donations:

Principal Chief Perry Beaver; Second Chief George Almerigi; Kay Adams; Woody Anderson; Mr. and Mrs. Kelly Bell; Arharlock Buckly; Linda Dearman; Bill Dowdy; Debra Gee; Betty Gray; Jake Greenwood; Deborah Harjochee; David James; Okfuskee District Representative Clyde Johnson; Dana Johnson; Edwin Marshall; Famous Marshall; Famous Marshall Jr.; Rose Lee Marshall; Judy Moore; David Mullon; Bill Nolan; Regina Schmollhafen; Betty Scott; Donna Simmons; Jeanne Smith; Sebrina Smith; Lydia Snyder; Doris Sullivan; Dicey Taryole; Dawanna Thompson; Lou Tilley; Gary Wabaunsee; Gerald Wofford; and Kay Willie.

Also: Big Splash, Tulsa; Celebration Station, Tulsa; Citizens Bank, Okemah; Creek Nation Community Hospital laboratory and x-ray; First National Bank, Okmulgee; Horner's Apple Market, Okemah; Lyons Indian Store; McDonalds, Okmulgee; Okemah IGA; Okemah Indian Community; Okemah National Bank; Parks Brothers Funeral Home, Okemah; Pepsi Co.; Reba's Flowers and Gifts, Henryetta; Sharpe's Department Store, Okemah; Sooner Drug; and Wal-Mart, Okmulgee.

Lena Marshall, Okemah

Editor's note: Marshall is employed with the tribe's children and family services administration.

Citizen wants name change

Editor:

Nearly 200 years ago, after the white Europeans invaded the shores of our country and began taking whatever they wanted, they found our ancestors and eventually discovered their camps and villages along creeks. Out of contempt they started calling our ancestors Creek Indians. Our ancestors accepted this disgrace and it has carried through to this day. I cannot understand why we accept this insult. In my not so humble opinion, we should erase the name from our Nation. Erase the word Creek from all letterheads, our tribal seal, and any other place it exists.

We are Muscogee Indians and should have enough pride in who we are to demand that we be shown the

please see **LETTERS...** page 11

Legal Notice

Printed in *The Muscogee Nation News*, volume 25, issue 8, August 1996.

In the matter of the adoption of Christopher James Lee Winship, Nicholas Schaffer Winship, Tyler Linden Dean Winship, and Bridgette J-Ann Dawn Winship, minor children. Case No. AD 96-05.

Notice is hereby given to the natural father of said children, James D. Winship, and to all persons interested in this adoption proceeding:

You are hereby notified that Gary Michael Harris and LaDon Winship Harris have filed a petition on the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for the adoption of Christopher James Lee, Nicholas Schaffer, Tyler Linden Dean, and Bridgette J-Ann Dawn Winship, of whom James D. Winship is alleged to be the natural father, together with their application for an order of this Court determining these children to be eligible for adoption without the natural father's consent. Said application alleges the natural father's consent to this adoption is not required by law for the following reasons, to wit:

That James D. Winship has not contributed to the support of the children for 12 months prior to the filing of the petition herein; further, that the natural father of said children is believed to be residing in Okmulgee, Oklahoma; that the natural father has had no contact with the children, nor has he provided any financial or other support for at least the last year, immediately prior to the filing of the petition for adoption in the above styled and numbered cause and therefore, consent of the father is not required.

You are further notified that this court will hear the evidence in support of and in opposition to the granting of said application on the 26th day of August 1996, at the hour of 9 a.m. at the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee Oklahoma.

If you have any cause to show why the above mentioned application should not be granted by the Court of why said children are not eligible for adoption without the natural father's consent, you should appear and present the same at the above stated time and place. Failure to appear may result in an adverse decision and/or the granting of a default judgement against you.

I have hereunto affixed my official signature and seal of said Court this 22nd day of July 1996.

(s) Patrick E. Moore, District Court Judge

Legal Notice

Printed in *The Muscogee Nation News*, volume 25, issue 8, August 1996.

In the matter of the adoption of Rustin Derek Scott, a minor child, AD 96-08.

Notice is hereby given that proceedings for termination of the parental rights of the natural father of Rustin Derek Scott, and for order determining child eligible for adoption without the consent of the natural father has been filed in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee, Oklahoma, alleging that Rustin Derek Scott, a minor child, born on 25th day of August 1994, at St. John Medical Center at Tulsa, Oklahoma, and requesting that the parental rights of the natural father be terminated and that an order be entered determining said child eligible for adoption without consent of the natural father. Said application alleges that the consent of the natural father, to this adoption is not required by law for the following reasons, to wit:

That the natural father is not known, and has further not contributed to the support of the child for twelve (12) months prior to the filing of the petition herein.

Said application for termination of parental rights and application for order determining child eligible for adoption without consent of natural father is on file in the office of the District Court Clerk, Osage County, Oklahoma.

Notice is further given that said applications will be heard before the honorable Patrick E. Moore at the District Court for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the 26th day of August, 1996 at 9 a.m.

Notice is further given that all interested parties at such hearing are entitled to be heard, including the right to object to said proposed termination and order determining said child eligible for adoption without consent and to offer evidence in support of any lawful objection, all as provided by law.

Notice is further given that failure to appear at said hearing shall constitute a denial of interest in the child which denial may result, without further notice of this proceeding, except as provided by law, in the termination of parental rights and in the transfer of said child's care custody, or guardianship, or in said child's adoption.

(s) Patrick E. Moore, District Court Judge

The Muscogee Nation News

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Deadline for submissions is the third Friday of every month. *The Muscogee Nation News* reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

James Wolfe, managing editor
Stephanie B. Berryhill, senior staff writer
Summer Barnes, secretary

Tulsa Mvskokvlke Community to host Council Oak

TULSA — Tulsa Mvskokvlke Community (formerly Tulsa Creek Indian Community) is hosting the Council Oak Ceremony beginning at 1 p.m., Sept. 14 at the northeast corner of East 18th Street and Cheyenne Avenue.

The recurring ceremony with tribal leaders and Tulsa city officials marks the relocation of the fire of Locapoka after removal last century. This year, the community is also sponsoring an Oak Tree Market at its soon-to-be completed center.

Following the speeches and presentations at the Council Oak, runners will take a fire to the community center at 8611 S. Union Avenue. At 3 p.m. a men and women's stickball game will be played followed by a men's game. A traditional Mvskoke fashion show will be at 5 p.m. Supper will be served at 6. Stomp dancing begins after the presentation of awards and honorariums.

The art market will feature a juried arts and crafts show. Contestants are to present their tribal citizenship cards for eligibility at 10 a.m.; the deadline for entry. Contestants will be judged in four categories: traditional items; sewing-beading; art, including sculpture; and jewelry-beadwork. Monetary prizes will be awarded.

Vendors must also be Muscogee citizens. Items for sale must be handmade though traditional foods, such as packaged sofke, apvske, and opposum grapes may also be sold. Sept. 11 is the deadline for vendors to participate in the market.

For more information, contact Paula Willits at (918) 445-1155 or the community offices at (918) 832-7062.

To get to the community center from the south, exit U.S. Highway 75 at the Jenks exit. Go west to Union Avenue, then north approximately one-quarter mile. From the north, exit U.S. Highway 75 at West 81st Street to Union Avenue, then south for three-quarters of a mile.

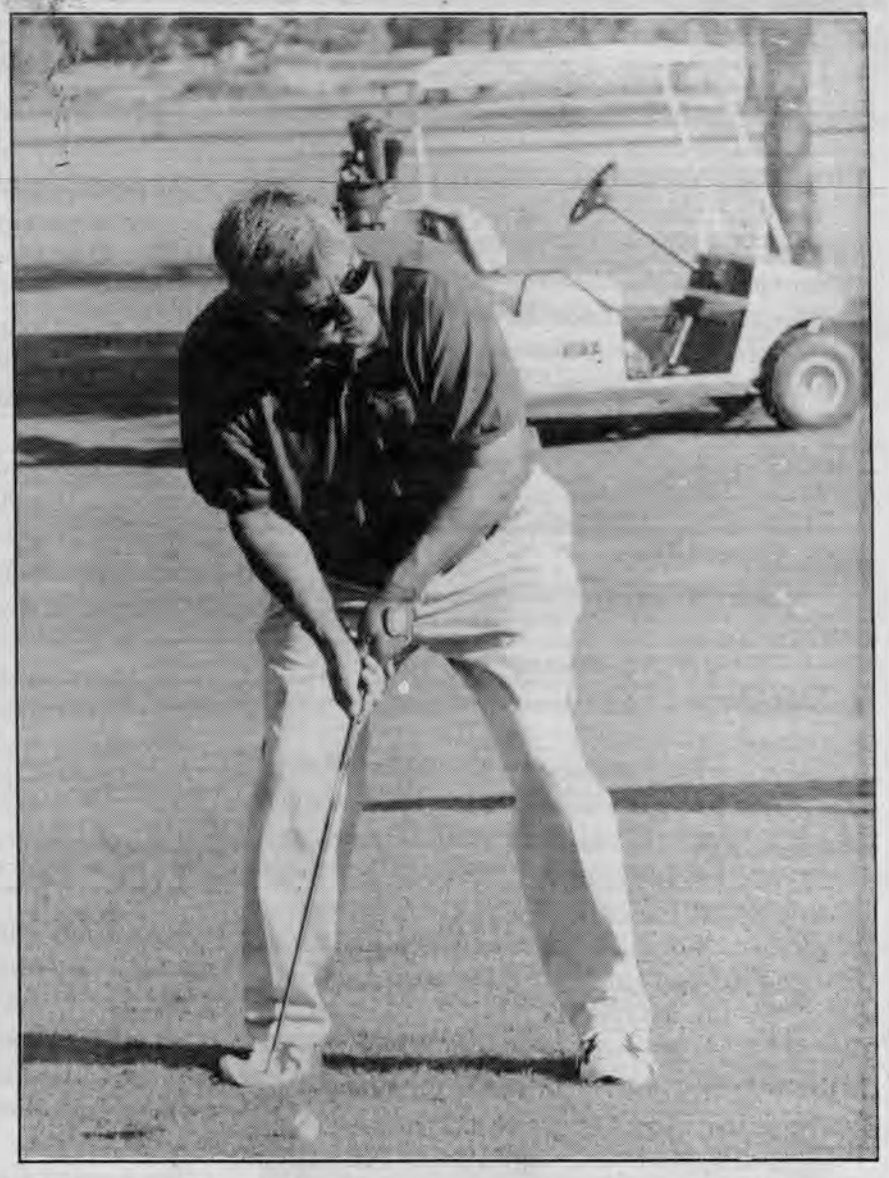


photo by Jim Wolfe

Principal Chief Perry Beaver eyes his approach to the fifth hole at the Okmulgee Country Club. Beaver was part of a quintet participating in the Drug Abuse Resistance Education golf tournament in June. Others participating were: Tulsa District representative Steve Bruner; tribal district judge Pat Moore; Jill Moore; and National Council attorney Tim Posey.

Ellis elected to silver haired legislature

MUSKOGEE — Muscogee National Council Okmulgee District Representative A.D. Ellis has been elected to the House of Representatives of the Oklahoma Silver Haired Legislature for the 1996-98 term. Ellis, of Twin Hills, will represent District 2-4 which includes McIntosh and Okmulgee counties. The silver haired legislature is comprised of Oklahomans age 60 and over that work on the state's planning for senior citizens as well as discuss issues relevant to their political agenda. Ellis is serving his third term on the Council.

Council approves tax commissioner, establishes motor vehicle code

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee National Council approved a motor vehicle code for the tribe as well as two appointments at its July regular session.

The 25-member tribal legislature approved the motor vehicle code that provides the legal foundation for the tribe to register and tax motor vehicles. The bill is expected to be implemented within six months. The final vote was 17-6.

Voting for the measure were (representatives listed alphabetically followed by district): **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; **Ron Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **A.D. Ellis**, Okmulgee; **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; **Anderson Hale**, Okmulgee; **Jess Kelley**, Tulsa; **Dave Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Harley Little**, Muskogee; **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **Abe McIntosh**, Okmulgee; **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Tom Pickering**, McIntosh; **Bruce Smith**, Okfuskee; **Phyllis Warrington**, Creek; **Nancy Watson**, Okfuskee; and **Earl Wheeler**, Creek.

Voting against the measure were: **Larry Bible**, Tulsa; **Steve Bruner**, Tulsa; **Johnson Buck**, Tukvpvtce; **Helen Chupco**, Muskogee; **Clyde Johnson**, Okfuskee; and **George Tiger**, Creek.

Absent was **Irene Cleghorn**, Tulsa. Speaker **Wilbur Gouge** conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In other business, the Council:

• confirmed (21-2) the apppointment of tribal citizen **Mike Factor** as tax commissioner. Factor is a former tribal controller, who most recently has worked for the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Voting against the confirmation were: **R. Cleghorn**, Tulsa; and **Nichols**, Okmulgee;

• approved unanimously (23-0) to appropriate $4,000 from the interest on the permanent fund account to the Tulsa Mvskokvlke Community to sponsor the Council Oak Ceremony;

• voted unanimously (23-0) to establish guidelines and appropriate money for the school clothing allowance;

• approved unanimously (23-0) to appropriate $5,000 from the interest on the permanent fund for a water line at Artussee Baptist Church;

• approved unanimously (23-0) to appropriate $6,000 from the interest on the permanent fund for related expenses with the Muscogee Nation's firefighters;

• approved unanimously (23-0) to appropriate $2,460 from the interest on the permanent fund to supplement the tribe's hardship program;

• approved unanimously (23-0) to disburse the tribal commmunity development block grant funds ($5,000 to 20 communities);

• approved unanimously (23-0) an authorization for a budget modification to the low income home energy assistance program (LIHEAP);

• approved unanimously (23-0) an authorization for the tribal health systems board to negotiate for contracts and grants from Indian Health Service and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services;

• approved unanimously (23-0) a bill that establishes the natural disaster act. The bill provides funds to those citizens affected adversely as a result of a natural disaster; and

• approved (17-5-1) the nomination of tribal citizen **William Freeman** as deputy director of human development. Freeman was most recently an educator and coach at Sequoyah High School, Tahlequa

Voting against the nomination were: **R. Cleghor** Tulsa; **Ellis**, Okmulgee; **Hale**, Okmulgee; **Nicho** Okmulgee; **Pickering**, McIntosh; **Smith**, Okfusk and **Watson**, Okfuskee. Abstaining was **Gillesp** Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes.

Program briefs

Program processing energy applications

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Social Services is continuing the low income home energy assistance program (LIHEAP) for summer cooling and weatherization for eligible Indians living within the tribe's jurisdictional boundaries.

Applications are accepted at the social services offices at the tribal capitol complex, U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56, or at field sites. Applicants should be able to provide:

- a copy of tribal affiliation or certificate degree of Indian blood;
- income verification of everyone in household of working age;
- social security number of every member of the household; and
- a current electric bill.

Any previous assistance with electric bills will make one ineligible for assistance. For more information, call 1 (800) 482-1979 or (918) 756-8700, ext. 280.

Citizen named to national association

OKMULGEE — Muscogee citizen Sandra Peters has been elected as at-large representative and secretary for the national Johnson O'Malley association. Peters, a field specialist with the Muscogee Nation JOM Program, was elected in nation-wide voting. The election of officers took place during the third annual JOM National Conference held in Rapid City, S.D. Peters has been with the JOM program since January 1993.

Peters

Family services manager named

OKMULGEE — David James has been named manager of the Muscogee Nation Children and Family Services Administration. James earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from Northeastern State University, Tahlequah.

He has worked with children's programs for nine years and implemented prevention and treatment programs for children in other areas.

Diabetes camp set for September 16

WEWOKA — The eighth Muscogee Nation Diabetes Family and Leadership Camp will be Sept. 16 through 18 at St. Crispin's Retreat in Seminole County.

The camp discusses diabetes self care and management to prevent the complications of uncontrolled diabetes mellitose. Accomodations are available, but limited.

For more information, contact the public health nurse at one of the following tribal health clinics: (918) 689-2547, Eufaula; (918) 623-0555, Okemah; or (918) 224-9310, Sapulpa.

School clothing applications accepted September 1

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Office of Child Care is accepting applications for school clothing assistance beginning Sept. 1.

The procedure has changed from previous years. Applications will available upon request by phone at (918) 758-1463 or 1 (800) 205-3705. All applications will be processed by mail only and no on site applications will be accepted.

Program guidelines are as follows:

- the student must be an enrolled member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;
- the student must be enrolled and attending school in kindergarten through 12th grade;
- students in grades 9 through 12 must have written proof of enrollment;
- parent or guardian must provide one month's income verification with a check stub or copy of the first page of the 1995 income tax return. If unemployed, a notarized statement should be submitted;
- if applicant is not the parent or legal guardian but is acting on behalf of the parent-guardian, then notarized written permission from the parent-guardian must be provided to indicate the name of the representative, and name and address of where the payment will be made.

Information concerning an application or payment to an applicant is confidential. Applications without all documentation will be returned.

House-hold size	Gross monthly income
1	$1,225
2	$1,602
3	$1,979
4	$2,357
5	$2,734
6	$3,111
7	$3,181
8	$3,252

Tribe receives $1 million rehabilitation grant

WASHINGTON — The Muscogee Nation has been awarded $1.03 million grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the rehabilitation of 90 homes.

The grant will be administered by the tribe's environmental services administration. Program manager Charley LaSarge said the monies must be used in accordance with HUD guidelines.

"We have to follow HUD's income guidelines," LaSarge said. "They have a point system that we use. Applications aren't done on a first-come, first-serve basis."

Other requirements include home ownership and heirship agreements. LaSarge said the point system does favor elderly home owners.

The tribe has two years to complete the grant. The grant application was prepared by Dr. Constance Pogue of Tahlequah. LaSarge also recognized staff members Floyd Jones and Bernice Watson for their work collecting data.

For more information, contact the program at (918) 756-8700, ext. 380 or 1 (800) 492-1979

Principal Chief Perry Beaver sign an acceptance letter for a federal grant worth $1.035 million.

First summer youth gathering deemed successful

OKMULGEE — More than 100 Muscogee youth attended the first summer youth gathering July 23 at Okmulgee. The event was sponsored by Muscogee Nation Children and Family Services, tribal public health nurses, and behavioral health.

The gathering is intended to have participatory workshops on a variety of issues faced by American Indian teenagers. Muscogee Nation Principal Chief Perry Beaver gave the welcoming address.

Others making presentations were: Kelly Bell; Tim Bigpond; Karen Cathey; Jake Chanate; George Cosar; Geneva Douglas; David James; Archie Mason; Lydia Snyder; Jack Sunagoowie; Tim Tallchief; and Daryl Tonemah.

Seminole Nation Behavioral Health Program also made a puppet presentation about human immunodeficiency virus and AIDS.

Hepatitis A vaccinations urged

OKEMAH — Public health nurses for the Muscogee Nation Health Systems are urging all American Indians between ages two and 18 to receive vaccination for Hepatitis A.

Hepatitis A is a virus that causes liver disease. In children it is usually mild, but many adults who develop hepatitis A are ill enough to miss about four to six weeks of work. It is found in the feces of infected persons, and transmitted orally according to tribal health officials. It is also spread by direct, close contact and by diaper changing.

Foods can be contanimated when infected foodhandlers, who don't wash their hands thoroughly, have direct contact with foods before consumed.

For more information, contact public health nurses Cynthia Coachman or Janet Dockery at (918) 623-1424, exts. 380 or 381.

Education

Inter-Tribal scholarship winners announced

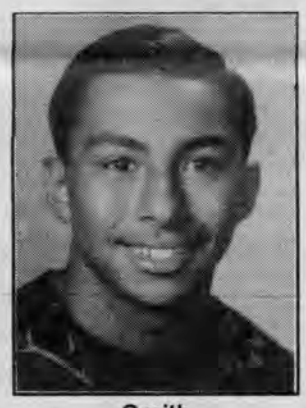
EUFAULA — Tribal citizens Amanda Epperson and Seneca Smith were awarded the Five Tribes Inter-Tribal Council Student Recognition Award during its quarterly meeting held at Fountainhead Resort July 12.

The council presents annual awards of $100 with a certificate to two students from each of the five tribes. The students are selected based on criteria of: leadership; service; and civic oriented activities.

Epperson is a 1996 graduate of Coweta High School. Her career goals include obtaining a degree in physical therapy from The University of Oklahoma. Among her academic achievements and organizations she has been involved in are: president, National Honor Society and National Junior Honor Society; superintendents honor roll; Fellowship of Christian Athletes; student council; and Future Business Leaders of America.

Epperson

Smith is a 1996 graduate of Okemah High School. His career goals include obtaining a degree in the field of pharmacology and playing baseball. Among his achievements are: Johnson O'Malley youth leadership conference delegate; Who's Who Among American High School students as well as athletes; student council representative; Irene Canard Scholarship; Anna Bland Scholarship; Key Club; Hoby Leadership delegate; Students Against Drinking and Driving, officer; and 3A all star.


Smith

Oologah girl named to U.S. honor roll

OOLOGAH — Oologah Middle School student Jennifer Carol Bailey has been recognized by the United States Achievement Academy as a U.S. Honor Roll Award winner.

Bailey will appear in the academy's official yearbook which is published nationally.

"Recognizing and supporting out youth is more important that ever before in America's history. Certainly, United States Achievement Academy winners should be congratulated and appreciated for their dedication to excellence and achievement," said Dr. George Stevens, executive director of the academy.

Bailey

Bailey will be in the seventh grade. She has been listed on the superintendent's honor roll since the fifth grade. She has received awards in geography and reading. Bailey has been recognized for her perfect school attendance record for two years.

Bailey is the daughter of Carol and Keith Bailey, Oologah. Her grandparents are: Judy and Gordon Peck, Tulsa; and Bernice and Doyle Bailey, Bixby. She is the great-granddaughter of original allottee Bunnie Manley, Oologah.

Citizen state regents academic scholarship

TAHLEQUAH — Yahnah Sunday Patrick, a 1996 Tahlequah High School graduate, has been named an Oklahoma State Regents Academic Scholar for the 1996-97 academic year.

This honor includes a full, four-year scholarship which she has accepted to attend Northeastern State University where she will major in accounting.

Patrick

To qualify, a student must be a resident of Oklahoma with an ACT or SAT composite score at or above the 99.5 percentile with an exceptional class rank. Yahnah qualified with and ACT score of 32 and by holding the rank of number one in a class of 251 seniors.

On July 7 the Ballard Scholarship Association named Patrick as the 1996 recipient for an outstanding Indian entrance level for college. Only one scholarship is awarded annually. Applicants are selected on the basis of: academic performance; extracurricular activities; the student's and parents' participation in tribal affairs; and family and community involvement.

A member of the National Honor Society, she was named outstanding Indian senior girl by the THS Indian Education Program. She received the Cherokee Nation Tribal Council's Cherokee District Tsa-La-Gi Trail of Tears Award of Excellence. The award recognizes outstanding Indian students graduating from senior high and middle schools within the Cherokee Nation.

Patrick belongs to the Raccoon Clan and Tukvpvtce Tribal Town. She attends Thlewarle Baptist Church. She is the daughter of Phyllis Fife, Tahlequah and Don Patrick, White Oak. Her maternal grandparents are the late James and Carmen Griffin Fife, Dustin. Paternal grandparents are Sarah Patrick and the late Orville Patrick, Stilwell.

Okmulgeean selected for interior internship

CARAMILLO, Calif. — The U.S. Department of the Interior's Minerals Management Service announces that Gina Harjo has been selected to participate in a 10-week internship with the MMS Pacific Outer Continental Shelf Region's Office of Public Affairs.

Harjo

Her temporary position with the agency is made possible through a cooperative agreement between Haskell Indian Nations University and the interior.

Harjo was born in Okmulgee and resides there currently. She graduated with her associates degree in liberal arts from Tulsa Junior College recently. She was named recipient of the Native American scholarship award in honor of her exemplary scholastic and cultural achievements.

"As a member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation I am proud to accept this internship with MMS and I hope that it will give me an opportunity to look at future career choices," Harjo said. "I will not only benefit in gaining practical experience, but this will provide me with an insight of how the federal government functions."

Harjo's duties will include writing and editing news releases and fact sheets, organizing regional slide and press clippings and assisting in coordinating outreach activities in support of the agency's mission.

The minerals management service manages the nation's natural gas, oil, and other mineral resources on the OCS. It collects, accounts for, and disburses about $4 billion in revenues form offshore federal mineral leases on federal and Indian lands.

Citizens contribute to multicultural counseling handbook

NORMAN — Muscogee tribal citizens Sandra Choney, Ph.D., and Elise Berryhill, M.S., as well as Rockey Robbins, M.Ed., have contributed to a published textbook.

Choney, Berryhill

The textbook, "Handbook of Multicultural Counseling," was published by Sage Publishing Co., Thousand Oaks, Calif., in 1995.

Choney, an assistant professor in The University of Oklahoma's Educational Psychology Department, was asked to write the chapter at the invitation of the book's editors. Choney extended the invitation to fourth year doctoral students Berryhill and Robbins.

The chapter — The Acculturation of American Indians: Developing Frameworks for Research and Practice — presents a theory of acculturation for American Indians which the group developed.

It is a required textbook for OU's educational psychology department.

Choney is a tribal health system's board member.

In September Berryhill will begin the Southwest Consortium Predoctoral Psychology Internship Program in Albuquerque, N.M. The consortium consists of the Indian Health Service, The University of New Mexico and Veterans Administration hospitals.

Berryhill belongs to the Deer Clan and Oce Apofv. Her parents are: JoAnn Skaggs, Eufaula; and Mike and Julia Berryhill, Henryetta.

Her grandparents are Thomas and the late Blanch Pakoska Berryhill, Wilson community, and the late Drennon and May Bell Hawkins Skaggs, Stidham.

Edna Monday Yahola

Edna cleans squirrels the Mvskoke way — singeing the hair and then peeling the skin. Squirrel brains are one of her favorite things to eat.

Edna Monday

When elder guests come to call at the home of Edna Monday Yahola, there are no ambient television voices filling in pauses between laughter and language — only the whirling of an electric fan and an occasional songbird.

The wood frame home her husband built for her in 1920 still remains without air conditioning.

Endearment can be heard in her voice as she talks about her late husband. Edna describes young Willie Yahola as a loner. "He was quiet; he never was one of them noisy ones."

Their childhood years spent at boarding schools can be attributed to both of them having lost their mothers while young children.

Edna was born September 2, 1902 to March and Lizzie London [also known as Randall] Monday on her mother's Schulter-area allotment. After their mother's death in 1910, Edna, and her sister, Annie, were sent to Nuyaka Mission and later — Dwight Mission.

"Annie — she was mean; she didn't care whether she got punished or not, she never did. But I was the scariest one; I never did want to do anything. I was afraid I might get caught, but she didn't. When the teachers caught you talking Indian they tied the end of your sleeve with string; and Annie's sleeve was always tied up."

Like many boarding school children raised without parents, Edna believes she was denied many experiences and knowledge that some of her peers obtained.

"We didn't have no home. So, therefore, I don't whose home we'd be going to when we come back from school. That's the reason I don't know a lot of things."

The most practical boarding school lessons taught to Edna were those of the piano at Dwight Mission. She halfheartedly paid attention to a few lessons and, having an ear for music, served the church with many years of accompaniment.

From Dwight Mission Edna went to Haskell Institute, her one-half semester attendance being the fourth year of Willie's attendance.

Having developed mutual affection, the two corresponded after Willie returned to the Okfuskee County home of Melinda Knight, a Mvskoke-speaking, white lady that raised him.

"He wrote a little card and said 'I've got something to ask you.' He just come and pick me up and never said anything; we just got married."

The couple were married by a justice of the

peace in Okmulgee, August 1919. To the contempt of her brother, Louis, Willie left Edna at the Kvseta-area home of her father. Willie, a carpenter by trade, returned to his Okfuskee County allotment to build a home for her.

"He got mad cause he left me; he thought he was doing wrong. My brother said 'he don't got no sense.' But he knew what he was doing."

It being the first home for the newlyweds, they were more appreciative of the house than most.

"Me and my husband never did have a place; we never did have no house. This was his allotment, and he built a house, and we both had a home. When the family grew, it grew with us."

When Edna's daughters, LaDonna Sharp and Lowena Birdsong, recount childhood memories of their mother they are usually associated with the labor intensive work she did to feed her family. Chickens, eggs, and cream provided income when Willie, also a draftsman and building contractor, was between jobs. These perishables were kept cold on the water of their dug well until Saturdays when she sold eggs for 10 cents a dozen in the produce houses of Okemah. She recalls riding by wagon and team to the busy, water trough-lined, Okemah roads.

"There was a lot of Indian peoples and if you wanted to see somebody, go to town on Saturday. Nowadays you don't see nobody in town Saturday, but long time ago, oh that sidewalk was just full."

Mvskoke cooking was taught to her by Willie's aunt, Mahala Sewell, and her daughters.

At age 93 she is not physically capable of preparing corn for Mvskoke food, but she still owns an *atvpv* and her *keco* and *kecvpe*.

LaDonna recalls observing her mother from a tire swing as she prepared her corn for *apvske* and *uesofke*.

"She'd be down there with her red bandana around her head — great big, old, long paddle and a big, old, black pot. She'd have ashes in it and she'd sit and stir that thing. There's a ditch down there...and I'd swing back and forth [in] that ditch and sit there and watch her. And it was hot, I mean it was hot, but she'd stand there and do all that. I guess she was making *sofke* corn...she'd put some corn in a pan and she had a round screen and she'd throw it up in the air and all that loose corn [husk] would fly out; she'd do that all the time.

Before Welch's Grape Juice replaced burnt pea hulls and Cope's Sweet Dried Corn was substituted for *ecko*, food preparations were cumbersome tasks for Mvskoke women.

"We used to have to dry that corn on top of the pickup shed. We'd climb up there and put that *ecko* up there and it would dry out all day long. And we would have to go up there and turn it around, stir it around," LaDonna said.

Edna has warned the young people that one day they'll be hungry for Indian food and have no one left to teach them.

"I told them they better hurry up and learn how to make *sakonepke* or make some lye."

Lowena does not share her appreciation for a hard earned cup of *apvske*, now rarely made the old-time way — in a cast iron cauldron under the August sun.

"...she'd stand there punching that corn all day just for lil' ol' bitty cup of flour or whatever that is; I don't want to do that.... That was hard work and I said I'm going to marry a rich man so I wouldn't have to do that," said Lowena with ensuing laughter.

In the tradition of Indian peoples, Edna raised her children on Indian stories. She retells ancient folklore as well as stories that were created to frighten all gathered around the glow of a bedtime fire.

"Mahala Lowe — we go over there to visit them and we could come home, but we stayed all night. So at night we'd make a pallet on the floor by the fireplace. They slept on the bed and they'd start telling stories, ooo — scary ones too. And we'd covered our heads and we didn't want to hear it. Old folks used to know how to tell stories."

A visitor to Edna's porch may hear stories about the one legged-animal, the brother who turned into snake, and *hvcko cvpko*. Childhood experiences some family members have had with *estelupotske* are vaguely discussed with an air of caution. She teasingly warns those who frequent the back pews of High Spring Baptist Church of

*please see **ALLOTTEE**...page 11*

Edna possesses this original photograph of her maternal great-grandfather — Kvseta Mekko Vcule [also known as James London Randall]. He is one of her matemal ancestors that experienced forced removal. The photograph is at least 150 years old.
According to Edna's niece, he and family members tried to explain his father was from London, but their mispronunciation of London ["Landv"] was understood by census takers as "Randall."
"'That's what papa [Noah Pakoska] used to say all the time; 'white man from London — Kvseta Mekko Acule's daddy.' He was from London; that's how come we got that Randall name."

Births, birthdays

Marthena Watashe

GLENPOOL — Marthena Ellen Marie Watashe was born April 6 to Sophrona Watashe.

The baby weighed 7 pounds, 5 ounces and was 19 and three-fourths inches long.

Watashe

She is the granddaughter of Richard Watashe, Sapulpa, and the late Charlene Cosar Watashe, Glenpool. Great-grandparents are Charlie Cosar, Wewoka, and the late Amanda Randall Cosar, Sapulpa.

Britain Back

TULSA — Britain Nicole Back celebrated her fourth birthday with a "Pocahontas" party theme July 7th.

Back

Helping her celebrate were family members. Back and friends played games such as "pin the feather on Pocahontas" and musical chairs.

She is the daughter of Mark and Stephanie Back. Her maternal grandparents are Melba Williams, Glenpool, and Joe Skeeter, Mounds. Her paternal grandparents are Terry and Margaret Back, Tulsa. Back is of Creek-Yuchi descent.

Lance Washington

OKMULGEE — Lance Steven Washington celebrated his first birthday with a barbecue and Batman party theme.

Washington

Attending the party were friends and relatives at the rural Okmulgee home of his great-grandmother, Lillian Washington.

He is the son of Donna Washington, Okmulgee. His grandparents are Donald and Jeanette Washington, Morris, and Phyllis Daniels.

Texas citizen earns rank of Eagle Scout

DICKINSON, Texas — Brian Litsey was awarded the rank of Eagle Scout of the Boy Scouts of America on June 26.

Litsey

A member of Troop 607, Dickinson, Litsey and fellow troop members refinished 24 benches and chairs at the Christian Renewal Center, Dickinson for the award. Litsey organized the effort which was completed June 1.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard O. Litsey of Dickinson.

Citizen places at Miss Indian Oklahoma

ANADARKO — Tribal citizen Shanh-Dea Mosquito was selected second runner-up to Miss Indian Oklahoma Julie Deerinwater June 20th.

Mosquito, Deerinwater

Mosquito won four category awards: the Dr. Margaret Nelson Essay award; best evening gown; best modern talent; and best contemporary Indian dress. She credits her grandmother, Mary Shirley, her seamstress, for contributing to her success. Mosquito will be a sophomore at Oklahoma State University majoring in medical technology. Her parents are Craig and Debbie Mosquito, Mounds.

Citizen graduates from basic training

FT. LEONARD WOOD, Mo. — Jess Wayne Waterdown graduated from basic training on May 30.

Waterdown

He is currently awaiting orders which will station him in Germany for the next three years. Waterdown is the son of Yannah and Richard Schrum and Johnny and Vera Waterdown.

Boy receives Shotokan karate awards

TULSA — One-year Shotokan karate student Chase Williams has advanced to the ranking of green belt and competed in many tournaments.

Among his awards are: first place, fighting, third place, forms — Harris Invitational; second, Safari Challenge — South Tulsa Karate Tournament; third place, first place, forms — Karate Championship; and second place — American Karate Challenge.

Williams other sporting activities include: football, Henryetta; wrestling, Henryetta; baseball, Bill Miller Yankees, Henryetta; and track, Creek Nation Olympics.

Williams

He attends Dewar First Baptist Church.

Williams is the son of James Williams, Henryetta, and Mary Williams, Okmulgee. His grandparents are Evelynn Haynes Quinton, Dewar, and the late Wanda Fields Williams, Hanna.

Citizen entertains olympics crowds

ATLANTA — Tribal citizen Obie Sullivan and other members of the Anadarko-based American Indian Music and Dance show performed for olympic crowds during the final week of contests.

The group performed for two days at Southern Crossroads, a downtown stage featuring multi-cultural acts.

Sullivan is known for his work with the 70s band X-IT.

Members of the group are: **Vincent Edwards**, fancy, eagle, and shield dancer, Kiowa-Comanche; **Sonny Klinekole**, bass guitarist, traditional percussion, and southern straight dancer, Kiowa-Comanche-Apache; **Dusty Miller**, guitar and slide guitar, Comanche; **Sullivan**, organ, electronic keyboard, and synthesizer, **Terry Tsotigh**, drums, harmonica, and southern straight dancer, Kiowa; **Bill Ware**, fancy war and shield dancer, Kiowa; **Thomas Ware III**, fancy and eagle dancer; Kiowa-Comanche; **Stony Ware**, northern traditional dancer, Kiowa-Comanche; **Tom Ware**, lead vocalist, guitar, and traditional flute, Kiowa-Comanche. They are the only Native American group from Oklahoma to be invited to perform and be sponsored by the U.S. Olympics Committee, Sullivan said.

Sullivan and his wife, Cathy, reside in Broken Arrow.

Chalakee-Berryhill reunion to be held

BROKEN ARROW — Labor Day weekend will mark a reunion of the Rev. John Chalakee and Fannie Berryhill Chalakee families and friends at Springtown Methodist Church..

An evening meal and an auction will be held Aug. 31. Church services will be held on the morning of Sept. 1, followed by lunch. Afternoon games will be held for individuals of all ages. Evening activities will include: supper; a talent show; and door prizes. The reunion will end on Labor Day with a breakfast and fellowship.

To get to the church from Broken Arrow, take 71st Street east until the four lanes end, turn north on Oak Grove Road to 41st Street. Turn east on 41st Street, drive one-half of a mile, and turn north to the church.

Obituaries

LOUANNA BARNETT

SAPULPA — Funeral services for Louanna Tom Barnett were held May 6 at Pickett Chapel United Methodist Church.

Barnett

She died May 2 at Bartlett Memorial Hospital. Barnett resided in Sapulpa most of her life. She was believed to be the oldest, living, full blood Yuchi at 96 years of age.

She was preceded in death by: her husband, Wesley W. Barnett; her parents, Euchee and Lucy Tom; three sons; one daughter; two grandchildren; and one great-grandson.

Barnett is survived by: daughters, Mary J. Watashe, Kellyville, Annie H. Watashe and Jerry Kinsey, both of Sapulpa, Nancy Jo Harry, Liberty Mounds; one son, James H. Barnett, Sapulpa; 36 grandchildren; 67 great-grandchildren; and 23 great-great-grandchildren.

BOBBIE HANEY

MOORE — Funeral services for Bobbie Laverne Davis Haney were held at the First Indian Baptist Church of Moore on July 5 with Rev. Victor Cope officiating and Richard Kihega assisting.

A wake service was held July 4 at the church.

Haney died July 1 at Mission Hill Memorial Hospital in Shawnee. She was born Jan. 7, 1956 in Seminole to Aleckton and Wanda Proctor Davis. She graduated from Capitol Hill High School in 1974 and attended Gordon Cooper Vo-Tech, earning certification in horticulture.

She married James Andrew Haney in 1977 in Seminole. They resided in Oklahoma City for many years before moving to Shawnee. Haney was a member of the Oklahoma City Choctaw Tribal Alliance and the Oklahoma City Powwow Club. Of Creek and Choctaw decent, she enjoyed Native American cultural events and fulfilled her love of cooking by catering for many events and organizations.

Haney was preceded in death by her husband in 1993.

She is survived by: a daughter, Stephanie Yazzie, Oklahoma City; her parents, Oklahoma City; a sister, Ann Harry, Oklahoma City; a brother, Larry Davis, Shawnee; a granddaughter, Alexis Yazzie, Oklahoma City; five nephews, Robin and Jason Harry, both of Oklahoma City, Howard Haney, Allen Mouse, and Daniel Mouse, all of Mustang; and a great-niece, Brittany Harry, Oklahoma City.

Pallbearers were: Howard Haney; Allen Mouse; Richard Kihega; Washie Proctor; Robin Harry; and Joel Davis. Honorary pallbearers were: Jason Harry; Lee Hester; Woody Proctor; Shawn Poweshiek; Mike Kihega; and Thomas Fixico.

Interment was in Lilac Hills Cemetery.

ELIZABETH HANSON

BEGGS — Funeral services for Elizabeth "Lizzie" Pinkey Hanson were held April 25 at the First Baptist Church, Beggs, with Rev. Curtis Kelly officiating.

She died April 18 at Creek Nation Community Hospital, Okemah. Hanson was born to Willie and Lilia Casteel Pinkey on March 4, 1905 in Nuyaka.

She was preceded in death by: her husband, Willie; her parents; and several brothers; and sisters.

Survivors include: three nieces, Willa White, Tulsa, Jackie Doakes, Tulsa, and Vernor C. Harry, Beggs; three nephews, Benjamin Worthy, Preston, Leroy Ceaser, Tulsa, and Douglas L. Harding Sr., Ypsilanti, Mich.; and a host of nieces; nephews; great-nieces and nephews.

Hanson raised her nephew, Harding, and contributed to the upbringing of her niece, Cynthia Williams, and great-niece LaTisha Williams.

Pallbearers were: Eddie Ray Harding; Tony Harding; Kenneth Harding; David Harding; Amos Gaines; and Jerry Lewis.

Interment was in New Post Oak Cemetery, Beggs.

DIMMIE WASHBURN

BRISTOW — Funeral services for Yuchi tribal elder Dimmie Washburn were held April 22 at Mutteloke United Methodist Church.

Washburn died April 18 at Tulsa Regional Medical Center after a short illness. He was born Sept. 25, 1922 at Newby to Sam and Eliza Brown Washburn.

He is survived by: his wife, Marie, Bixby; son, Raymond Lee Washburn, Oklahoma City; daughter, Florence Frank, Glenpool; two brothers, Henry Washburn, Tulsa, and Joe Washburn, Bristow; two sisters, Elsie Proctor, Holdenville, and Etheline Conley, Bristow; three grandchildren; three step-grandchildren; nieces; nephews; and friends.

Interment was in the Washburn Family Cemetery.

Gratitude

We would like to thank all preachers who came to offer comforting words during the loss of our loved one.

We would also like to thank Pickett Chapel United Methodist Church, Revs. Malcolm Tiger and John Fixico, and all that people that offered flowers and donations.

Louanna Tom Barnett Family

We would like to express our sincere appreciation to our friends and relatives during the illness of our loved one.

We offer a very special thank you to her niece, Vernor C. Harry and the two daughters of our cousin, the late Willie Adams Sr.

May God bless each of you.

Elizabeth Hanson Family

We would like to thank Muscogee Nation for digging the grave of our father and for monies used for food expenses .

We want to express our appreciation to the individuals that sent cards, flowers, and offered support.

Dimmie Washburn Family

Religion briefs

Deep Fork Hillabee to hold gospel singing

ONAPA — A gospel singing and hog fry will be held at Deep Fork Hillabee Baptist Church Aug. 10.

The hog fry will begin at 5 p.m., with the singing following at 7 p.m.

Featured singers will be: Higher Vision; Melody Aires; and the Johnson-Ross Family.

All singers and listeners are welcome. Those attending should bring lawn chairs.

To get to the church drive four miles south of Interstate 40 on U.S. Highway 69 to the Onapa exit. Signs to the church will be posted. For more information, call Curtis Kinney at (918) 682-4703.

Birdcreek Baptist schedules annual singing

SASAKWA — Birdcreek Baptist Church will hold its annual gospel singing beginning at 7 p.m., Sept. 7.

The master of ceremonies will be David Little.

All singers are invited to attend. Concessions will be provided. Those attending should bring lawn chairs.

From Sasakwa, the church is located three and one-half miles on state highway 56 and one-half of a mile south.

Churches attend Bemo communion service

TULSA — Broken Arrow United Methodist, Grave Creek Baptist, Haikey UM, and Thewarle Baptist churches were present during Bemo Baptist Church communion services July 28.

The communion service message was delivered by Rev. Eastman Whitlow, Thewarle pastor, with Rev. George Doyle, Bemo pastor, conducting the service.

Events and happenings

Chess lessons offered

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Nation Office of the Principal Chief is attempting to assess the number of tribal youth interested in learning to play chess. If enough interest is demonstrated, lessons are to be taught by tribal citizen Richard Cummings.

"Chess can make an important contribution to the lives of our young people," Cummings said. "It not only provides entertainment, but also enhances logic skills, power of concentration, and sense of fair play."

Inquiries should be directed to: Office of the Principal Chief, Muscogee Nation, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447; or call (918) 756-8700, ext. 200, or 1 (800) 482-1979.

OCU, language institute offer class

OKLAHOMA CITY — Oklahoma City University and the Mvskoke Language Institute are offering a noncredit course in Mvskoke language beginning Aug. 27 at the campus.

The course is introductory and will be taught by George Bunny and Ted Isham. At the end of the course, students will have a vocabulary of approximately 200 words and the ability to form simple sentences with that vocabulary.

Class size is limited. Included in the $65 fee is the class workbook. Optional audio tapes of the lessons and other curriculum can be purchased for a nominal cost.

For more information, contact Claudette Robertson at (405) 947-1853.

Oklahoma voters deadlines

OKLAHOMA CITY — The deadline for applying for absentee ballots for Oklahoma's Aug. 27 primary election is 5 p.m., Aug. 21. Registered voters will be able to vote in person as absentee at any county election board office between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Aug. 22, 23, and 26. Voting registration rolls have been closed until after the primary election. The books will reopen Sept. 18, the day after the Sept. 17 runoff election.

Eufaula IC powwow club sale

EUFAULA — Eufaula Indian Community Powwow Club is having an arts and crafts show and food sale Aug. 31 and Sept. 1 at First and High streets. The events begin at 10 a.m., Aug. 31 and noon, Sept. 1. Videocassette tapes on a variety of Indian topics will also be shown both days of the show. Booths are $20 each. Exhibitors should provide their own tables and chairs. For more information, call (918) 689-5066.

Royalty owners to meet in Bristow

BRISTOW — A meeting for Muscogee allottees and heirs owning minerals royalties will begin at 9 a.m., Sept. 25 at Bristow Indian Community Center, 121 W. Lincoln. The purpose of the meeting is to assist royalty owners become more aware of the oil and gas process and how their royalties are monitored. Those attending are asked to bring all relevant documents to assist with problem solving. For more information, call Charles Robertson at 1 (800) 238-1943 or (918) 687-2323.

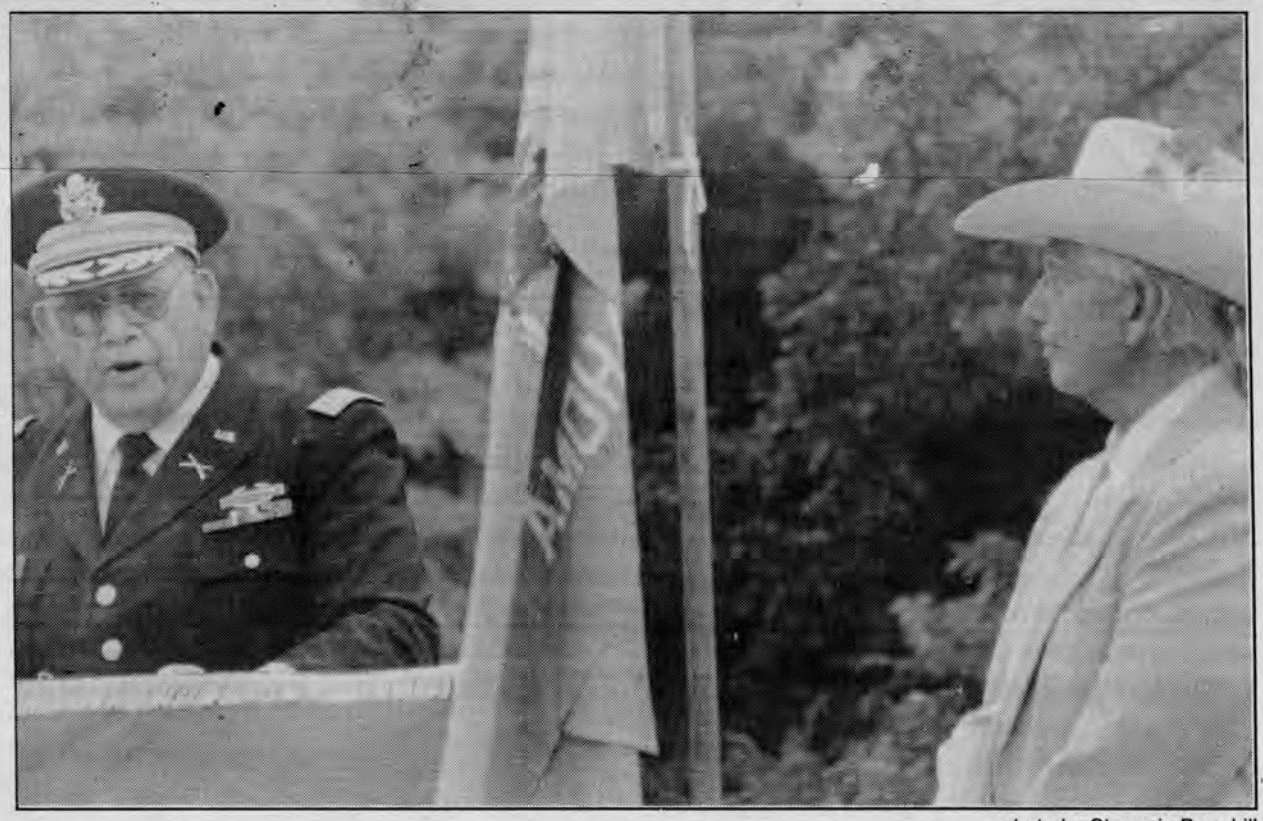


photo by Stepanie Berryhill

Retired Col. Edwin Moore, left, addresses those gathered for an Okmulgee County bridge dedication to the late 1st Lt. Kelly Moore, killed in combat Feb. 9, 1944 near Cassino, Italy. Lt. Moore was a commander of the 34th Division at the time of his death. At right is brother Kenneth Moore.

1996 Creek Nation Festival and Rodeo results

Festival tennis tournament results

June 21 and 22, Okmulgee Municipal Courts

Women's open singles — finals
Cas Allen def. Tasha Morgan, 3-6, 6-3, 6-0

Women's 35 and over singles — finals
Nancy Soward def. Patricia Allen, 6-1, 6-0
Carline Barrett, consolation champion

Women's intermediate
Yawnah Allen, champion, no score available

Women's doubles — finals
C. Allen-Holly Mullen def. Morgan-Tawny Taylor, no score available

Women's intermediate doubles — finals
Vicki Tate-Nancy Soward def. P. Allen-Y. Allen, 6-0, 6-1
Barrett-Gale Bales, consolation champions

Men's open singles — finals
Paul McCrary def. Scott Johnson, 6-4, 6-0
Jackie Belcher, consolation champion

Men's 35 and over singles — finals
Don Quinton, def. Cecil Larney, 7-5, 6-0
Gary Canard, consolation champion

Men's intermediate singles — finals
Robert Deere def. Mike Underwood, 6-2, 6-4
William Bales, consolation champion

Men's doubles — finals
Larney-Loy Thomas def. Quinton-Canard, 6-4, 6-4

Men's intermediate doubles — finals
McCrary-Paul Harjo def. Underwood-Colley Underson, no score available

Mixed doubles — finals
Mullen-Morgan def. Tate-Johnson, 6-0, 6-3
Barrett-Bales, consolation champions

Festival youth olympics results

June 21, Harmon Stadium, Okmulgee (listed in order of finish)

Team
Okfuskee Indian Community
Wetumka Indian Community
Broken Arrow Indian Community

Girls 6-7 30 meters
Chelsea Williams - Wilson
Amber Fowler - Broken Arrow
Alyssa Gray - Harjo Indian Club

Girls 6-7 50 meters
Williams - Wilson
Kristi Hill - Okfuskee
Delilah Harjo - Morris

Girls 8-9 50 meters
Tia Reich - Broken Arrow
Tally Ward - Independent
Tashina Swimmer - Broken Arrow

Girls 10-11 50 meters
Terra Beaver - Morris
Meske Smith - Okfuskee
Betsy Cooper - Okfuskee

Girls 6-7 400 relay
Wetumka

Girls 8-9 400 relay
Okfuskee
Morris
Broken Arrow

Girls 10-11 400 relay
Okfuskee
Morris
Harjo Indian Club

Girls 12-13 400 relay
Koweta
Okfuskee
Morris

Girls 14-15 400 relay
Okfuskee

Boys 6-7 30 meters
Spencer Underwood - Wetumka
Andrew Ellis - Wetumka
Osceola Powell - Wetumka

Boys 6-7 50 meters
Ellis - Wetumka
Rylan Hicks - Weleetka
Powell - Wetumka

Boys 8-9 50 meters
Brian Culley - Okfuskee
Brian Harjo - Okmulgee
William Bencoma - Weleetka

please see **RESULTS**..., page 11

Allottee

continued from page 7

"There was a little boy came in and sat on the back bench. He had a little cap on...I really did saw him! And Cowboy [Alexander Bear] he was sitting behind the altar...and he said he saw that little boy too. So just me and him saw that little boy. And for a good while I sat there with my eye — you know you can see from the corner of your eye — and soon as I blinked it was gone.

I always tell them, 'whoever likes to sit in the back seat so much will be sitting with that little boy someday.'"

Originally Methodist, her home church is Little Cussetah — of which her great-grandfather, Kvseta Mekko Vcule [also known as James London Randall], established predecessors to in the Schulter area.

"Little Cussetah was my church and I think it is still my church; we didn't join Big Cussetah, but my daddy was Big Cussetah preacher."

Now Baptist, she is the oldest member of High Spring, having joined the church in the 1920s. Her husband, a lifetime member of the church, was a deacon until he passed away in 1973.

"Well, after when my husband got married, well I didn't really, exactly did it on my own. But one old lady, her last name was Dunson — Lucy Dunson — she said, 'why don't you get Baptized and be our church member.' She used to kept asking me to, so I finally decided I might as well get baptized and be a Baptist."

Edna belongs to the Bear Clan and is a daughter of the Bird Clan. Originally Seminole-Hitchitee Tribal Town, she and her children were adopted by Fish Pond. She still owns her homestead 40, 40 of 160 acres designated under Congressional Act of May 25, 1901 for the establishment of a home. It is located on a northwest Schulter hilltop. Edna is also the mother of: Raymond Yahola; Novena Yahola Dunson; and Madeline Seago. She has 11 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

Letters

continued from page 2

respect we deserve. I, for one, no longer accept being called a Creek. I am a Muscogee and I don't allow anyone to disrespect my heritage.

The caucasian holds all nonwhites in contempt. They have tried for 200 years to make us vanish from Mother Earth, but we are still here and we are going nowhere. We are here and no one is going to make us disappear. It is time that we make a stand, and make the white man acknowledge that we are the great Muscogee Nation.

Ed Burgess, Las Vegas, Nev.

Editor's note: The tribal constitution at Article 1, section 1, reads: "The name of this tribe of Muscogee (Creek) people shall be The Muscogee (Creek) Nation..." Any name change would require a constitutional amendment.

Citizen thankful for help

Editor:

I would like to thank Principal Chief Perry Beaver and Second Chief George Almerigi for taking part in the 1996 Creek Nation Festival and Rodeo Youth Olympics. I also want to thank all of the participants, coaches, volunteers, the Okmulgee Board of Education for the use of Harmon Stadium and a special thanks to Leon Yahola for his time.

Georgeanne DeLaune, Wilson

Editor's note: DeLaune was this year's Festival Olympics event coordinator.

Letters to the editor are welcome. All letters must be signed and include a traceable address for verificiation. Address comments to: *The Muscogee Nation News*, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447. Please include tribal enrollment number on all correspondence.

Suit

continued from page 1

resolve issues related to IIM accounts.

Local BIA officials declined comment on the suit. No date has been released for an expected decision.

Results

continued from page 10

Boys 10-11 50 meters
Kanuggie Lowe - Tulsa
Toby Hill - Okfuskee
Konan Swimmer - Broken Arrow

Boys 6-7 400 relay
Wetumka
Morris
Okmulgee

Boys 8-9 400 relay
Okfuskee
Morris
Okmulgee

Boys 10-11 400 relay
Broken Arrow
Wilson
Wetumka

Boys 12-13 400 relay
Tulsa
Broken Arrow
Wetumka

Boys 14-15 400 relay
Wetumka
Harjo Indian Club
Morris

Girls 8-9 200 meters
Swimmer - Broken Arrow
Carrie Thompson - Glenpool
Reich - Broken Arrow

Girls 10-11 200 meters
Beaver - Morris
Cooper - Okfuskee
Kami Grady - Broken Arrow

Girls 12-13 200 meters
Lacey Cowles - Koweta
Dalynn Steelman - Koweta
Lisa Williams - Wilson

Girls 14-15 200 meters
Kimberly Carpenter - Tulsa
Christina Tiger - Okfuskee
Tia Brown - Okfuskee

Girls 12-13 400 meters
Cowles - Koweta
Dana Murray - Okfuskee
Tara Chalakee - Koweta

Girls 14-15 400 meters
Jeri Culley - Okfuskee
Isabell Welch - Muskogee
Tiger - Okfuskee

6-7 mixed 400 relay
Wilson
Morris
Harjo Indian Club

12-13 mixed 400 relay
Wilson
Okfuskee
Morris

Girls 8-9 long jump
Swimmer - Broken Arrow
Reich - Broken Arrow
Linda Little - Wetumka

Girls 10-11 long jump
Sally Parkhurst - Wetumka
Cassie Jones - Tulsa
Crystal Starr - Okmulgee

Girls 12-13 long jump
Chenoa Frazier - Weleetka
Brandy Persley - Koweta
Trina Beaver - Morris

Boys 8-9 200 meters
Zack Bacon - Broken Arrow
David Goodman - independent
Jonathan Lowe - Wetumka

Boys 12-13 200 meters
Omis Gibbs - Tulsa
Kenan Swimmer - Brokem Arrow
L.D. Thompson - Glenpool

Boys 14-15 200 meters
Davey Hill - Okfuskee
Zerndorf Billy - Harjo Indian Club
Johnny Watson - Tulsa

Boys 12-13 400 meters
Nelson Harjo Jr. - Wilson
Ryan Buckley - Wetumka

Boys 14-15 400 meters
Johnny Watson - Tulsa
Kenneth West - Wetumka
Jonathan Harjo - Harjo Indian Club

8-9 Mixed 400 relay
Okmulgee, Morris, Glenpool

14-15 mixed 400 relay
Weleetka, Okfuskee

Boys 8-9 long jump
Brian Harjo - Okmulgee
Andrew Thomas - Okmulgee
Tyler Little Soldier - independent

Boys 10-11 long jump
Ko. Swimmer - Broken Arrow
Matt Holmes - Koweta
Lowe - Tulsa

Boys 12-13 long jump
Ke. Swimmer - Broken Arrow
Cody Jones - Tulsa
Thompson - Glenpool

Girls 14-15 long jump
Carpenter - Tulsa
Welch - Muskogee
Lenzie Moppin - Wetumka

Girls 10-11 hoop shooting
Talia Culley - Okfuskee
Polly Sanders - Okmulgee
Natasha Henson - Koweta

Girls 14-15 hoop shooting
Moppin - Wetumka
Amanda Richards - Weleetka
Tashia Hill - Okmulgee

Girls 6-7 softball throw
Jackleyn Harrison - Harjo Indian Club
Alwyn Henson - Koweta
Kaysie Bacon - Broken Arrow

Girls 8-9 softball throw
Jessica Grisson - Weleetka
Kathryn Brown - Holdenville
Melissa Lewis - Morris

Boys 14-15 long jump
Yahola Buck - Wetumka
Watson - Tulsa
Brandon Berryhill - Morris

Boys 10-11 hoop shooting
Wesley Beaver - Morris
Nathan Simmers - Morris
Micah Little - Wilson

Boys 12-13 hoop shooting
Patrick Randall - Holdenville
Matt Holata - Morris
Eric Downs - Tulsa

Boys 14-15 hoop shooting
Jonathan Goodman - Harjo Indian Club
Watson - Tulsa
Paul Tecumseh Jr. - Morris

Boys 6-7 softball throw
Hicks - Weleetka
Aaron Birdcreek - Wilson
Sonny Givens - Weleetka

Boys 8-9 softball throw
Greyhawk King - Wilson
Dustin Harjo - Morris
Culley - Okfuskee

Special Acheivement-Recognition Award Receipient
Fredo "Chubby" Anderson

Festival 5K run results

June 22, capitol complex, Okmulgee

Overall male
Solomon Kariuki - Stillwater, 15:37

Overall female
Shannon Compton - Oklahoma City, 18:45

Financial Report

Program name	Receipts	Budget	Encumbered	Expended	Unencumbered
ICUSA	20,301	691,436	0	418,611	272,825
MCN LEGAL DEFENSE FUND	6,213	132,112	0	25,281	106,831
TREASURY	409,856	388,000	0	171,974	216,026
LITIGATION & LOBBYING	29,481	712,959	0	562,952	150,007
GENERAL TAXES & LICENSES	765,765	1,437,932	0	859,668	578,264
ADMINISTRATION/INDIRECT	1,675,219	2,104,395	0	1,337,833	766,562
CONSUMER LOANS	17,269	0	0	(54,667)	54,667
CREEK NATION BINGO	1,723,571	2,410,078	0	1,610,413	799,665
CN PERMANENT FUND	1,590,872	73,410	0	73,368	42
TOM JOHNSON PERM FUND	3,185	0	0	0	0
CULTURAL PRESERVATION	861	8,474	0	(39)	8,513
TRIBAL BUDGET	715,042	559,168	0	427,775	131,393
TAX COMMISSION	86,203	164,981	0	90,764	74,217
DIVISION OF HUMAN DEV.	15,124	398,576	0	103,780	294,796
INDIAN HOME GRANT	0	726,159	0	12,566	713,593
CHILD CARE DBG '92	253,866	391,998	0	264,370	127,628
TITLE IVB CHILDREN SERV	(4,556)	0	0	0	0
DIVISION, C & F SERVICES	792,757	1,709,442	0	808,362	901,080
FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENT.	36,287	49,120	0	37,021	12,099
L.I.H.E.A.P. 96'	3,902	76,185	0	5,411	70,774
95 CCDBG	73,503	1,586,213	0	97,328	1,488,885
TITLE IV-B CHILD WELFARE	34,728	224,532	0	39,561	184,971
TRIBAL AFFAIRS	19,973	10,492	0	9,484	1,008
DIVISION OF HUMAN DEVEL.	17,204	51,317	0	17,203	34,114
FDP FY93	213,426	301,291	0	220,800	80,491
96 NUTRITION EDUCATION	19,633	31,124	0	20,087	11,037
HEADSTART USDA REIMBURSE	82,265	78,565	0	50,822	27,743
EUF. DORM-ACTIVITY FUND	170	0	0	0	0
ELECTION BOARD	1,108	18,750	0	13,632	5,118
CITIZENSHIP BOARD	1,935	1,200	0	0	1,200
SELF-GOVERNANCE COMPACT	5,239,547	4,952,531	0	3,200,158	1,752,373
D. OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT	11,956	107,541	0	8,651	98,890
EUFAULA DORMITORY	723,995	1,005,949	0	719,299	286,650
TRIBAL SELF GOVERNANCE	100	0	0	0	0
BIA-TRANS. IMPROV. PROG.	33,363	43,100	0	30,894	12,206
JOM PROGRAM	158,534	184,174	0	166,353	17,821
SG NEGOTIATION GRANT	60	0	0	0	0
COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING	0	49,613	0	0	49,613
DIVISION OF T. AFFAIRS	189,665	200,000	0	97,229	102,771
JOM EARLY CHILDHOOD	11,559	12,929	0	0	12,929
JOHNSON O'MALLEY	788,281	967,269	0	228,036	739,233
EQUIPMENT POOL/ROADS P.	60,474	60,000	0	59,198	802
EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING	249	0	0	249	(249)
EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING	819,258	889,895	103	834,371	55,421
HEADSTART - FY 1996	485,329	913,681	0	510,914	402,767
VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN	1,481	75,000	0	1,481	73,519
CHILDREN'S JUSTICE PROG.	0	60,000	0	0	60,000
COMMUNITY CENTERS PROJ.	174,051	1,187,912	0	232,390	955,522
COMMUNITY SERV. BLDG.	385,449	372,921	0	359,070	13,851
TRAVEL PLAZA ENTERPRISE	398,963	170,000	0	1,051	168,949
TRIBAL AGRIC PROGRAM	3,615	4,365	0	4,319	46
LIGHTHORSE SERVICES	168,005	544,681	0	265,885	278,796
CONSTRUCTION COMPANY	8,970	5,250	0	28,381	(23,131)
COMMUNICATION REVLNG FND	1,081	2,045	0	0	2,045
MCN FLAGS & ETC.	3,200	3,200	0	0	3,200
INVESTMENT TRUST	(207,378)	0	0	0	0
C.N. TAXES & FRINGE	6,533	0	0	236,502	(236,502)
NONEXPENDABLE TRUST	50	0	0	0	0
TRIBAL-REAL PROP & FACIL	678,181	837,421	0	542,099	295,322
TRIBAL-PROPERTY & SUPPLY	96,593	197,613	0	110,968	86,645
CN.FOUN.SCHOLARSHIP FUND	3,472	0	0	843	(843)
FESTIVAL COMMITTEE	47,310	75,086	0	60,406	14,680
TOTALS	**18,897,109**	**27,260,085**	**103**	**14,923,107**	**12,336,875**

Financial report narrative

In accordance with National Council Act 88-70, section 112, as amended by NCA 89-37, the following information for the period ending June 30, 1996 discloses the receipts, budget, encumbrances, expenditures, and unencumbrances for all funds under the control of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

The **receipts** are dollar amounts received for the first three quarters of Fiscal Year 1996. The figures include, but are not limited to federal dollars received on a grant or contract, interest earned during the quarter, and revenues generated by the tribe. The total dollars spent represent the amount spent to date for the three quarters ending June 30, 1996. The **budget** figure represents the amounts approved as of December 1996 by National Council Act 95-155 in the annual comprehensive budget as modified buy any supplemental appropriations approved by the National Council.

The **encumbered** amounts include figures derived from outstanding purchase orders at the end of the quarter. **Expended** amounts state the total amount that has been spent for each department within that fund. The **unencumbered** figures reflect the net available for each department at the end of June 1996. Any questions regarding this report may be directed to the Muscogee Nation Office of the Controller at (918) 756-8700.

Printed in *The Muscogee Nation News*, volume 25, issue 8, August 1996.

The Muscogee Nation News

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National Council repeals support resolutions for tribal town governments

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) National Council took action to prevent the transfer of trust land from the tribe to two federally-recognized tribal town governments at an Oct. 14 special session.

The 26-member tribal legislature met in special session to consider four resolutions regarding the transfer of trust property as well as the placement of land into trust for either of the tribal town governments.

Alabama-Quassarte, Kialegee, and Thlopthlocco are federally recognized tribal town governments organized under the 1936 Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act. The three governments all are headquartered within the jurisdiction of the Muscogee Nation. Their tribal town membership are of Mvskoke descent.

Tribal Resolution 96-10 repealed TR 94-07 and any other concurrence by the Muscogee Nation supporting the placement of lands purchased by the Alabama-Quassarte Tribal Town government in trust status.

The earlier resolution, passed unanimously by the tribal council in July 1994, supported trust status for lands purchased by Alabama-Quassarte. Where lands are within the jurisdiction of more than one tribe, U.S. Department of Interior policy requires the agreement of the other tribe; in this instance, the Muscogee Nation.

The latest resolution, sponsored by Okmulgee District Representative Dave Lewis, revealed concern for potential conflict with the Muscogee Nation's present and future activities. In addition to repealing the earlier concurring resolution, TR 96-10 requires mutual written agreement between the Nation and Alabama-Quassarte.

Similar action was approved by the Council with TR 96-11. The resolution repeals TR 95-09 as well as the tribe's previous concurrence for the Kialegee Tribal Town government.

The Council also took action on two specific moves by the two tribal town governments to have land owned by the tribe transferred to them.

Alabama-Quassarte and Kialegee have each requested the Bureau of Indian Affairs Muskogee Area Office to make the assignments. Alabama-Quassarte seeks to have the land referred to as the Wetumka or Dustin project (Tukvpvtce District) assigned to them. Kialegee desires the land known as the Hanna project in McIntosh District.

Passage of the resolutions makes the tribe's opposition to both actions formal. The resolutions have been signed by Principal Chief Perry Beaver. Copies have been forwarded to the Muskogee area office.

The following lists representative voting on the resolu-

please see **REPEAL**..., page 2

photo by Gerald Wofford

Muscogee Nation Principal Chief Perry Beaver, seated in center, signs an agreement to accept a $740,000 community development block grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The grant will be used to build a child development center and administrative offices for the child care program at the tribal capitol complex (see related story on page 4). Pictured from left are: Russell Torbett, proposal writer; Chief Beaver; Janet Wise, child care program manager. Standing is James Walters, budgets and contracts supervisor.

Tribal license tags available in February

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Nation is expecting to issue its own vehicle license tags by February 1997.

With his signature on the tribal vehicle code (National Council Act 95-81), Principal Chief Perry Beaver made the tribe one of seven federally recognized Oklahoma tribes issuing motor vehicle tags.

The anticipated date for the issuance of tribal license tags is Feb. 3, 1997, though the tribal administration is seeking additional appropriation for the administration and operation of the tribal tag issuance as well as legal opinions regarding jurisdiction and scope of authority.

Vehicle owners are eligible under tribal law if they are enrolled tribal members with proof of membership and as tribal citizens, reside within the jurisdictional boundaries and garage the vehicle within the boundaries.

To receive a tag, applicants must:

• present a valid tribal enrollment card;

• surrender a verification of owner's insurance security form or equivalent proof of liability insurance coverage;

• surrender the current Oklahoma certificate of title and registration, Oklahoma tag or certificate of origin; and

• complete the registration application.

The metal tag issued by the tribe is valid for five years and new decals must be obtained annually.

To avoid assessment of back taxes on a tribally registered vehicle, the subsequent owner must obtain and show proof that the previous owner was a member of the tribe.

This proof may be:

• an original or certified copy of a tribal identification card;

• an original or certified copy of a certificate degree of Indian blood stating tribal affiliation; or

please see **TAGS**..., page 2

Letters to the editor

Citizen thankful for home improvement

Editor:

I want to say thanks to the Muscogee Nation for replacing the roof on our home. I want to thank Charley LaSarge for coming and inspecting our roof and getting us on the list for replacement and to Floyd Jones and his office staff for their help.

I am thankful to Negiel Bigpond for seeing that the work was done. Thanks again for everything and keep up the good work. We are very proud of our new roof. May God bless you all for helping us.

Malinda and Andy Tuttle, Sapulpa

Editor's note: LaSarge, Jones, and Bigpond work in the tribe's environmental services administration for home improvement and rehabilitation.

Citizen thankful for assistance

Editor:

Mulsey and I appreciate very much the help we received in the form of a gift of $200. It made us able to go to Phoenix to see our daughter, Beverly, who was in the Maricopa County Burn Center.

The group of people who helped us know who they are. We again say thanks and pray for God's blessing for you.

Harry and Mulsey Long, Holdenville

Citizen notifies of illness

Editor:

As you may know, our friend, brother in Christ, and former Principal Chief Claude Cox, is very seriously ill as is his wife, Lilly. They were at Tulsa Regional Medical Center.

This letter is a request for this information to appear in *The Muscogee Nation News*. Claude Cox is a part of Muscogee history and will always be remembered as our first elected chief in more than 70 years. I believe tribal citizens would like to know the address where cards and letters may be sent.

Thank you and God bless you.

Bernice Hale, Okmulgee

Editor's note: Address cards and letters to: Claude and Lilly Cox, 605 North Alabama, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

Citizen explains discontinuation of program

Editor:

This is written on behalf of the many men and women who have served our country and especially those who have given the supreme sacrifice in order that we might live as we each do. I coordinated the two programs that Muscogee (Creek) Nation had in honor of our veterans because my family has strong military ties; because our young people need to learn respect for veterans and the flag; and because our people as a Nation should show pride for their members and other American Indians who are veterans.

I was also told last year that I am not a veteran and I should leave veterans' activities alone and let them do it. Even though I am no longer employed with the Nation, please know that no one will ever erase what I feel in my heart for each of you. During those programs, you were not given much, but it was done with much love, respect, and honor.

It is unfortunate our people suffer from much jealousy and we cannot get along because we don't want one to get ahead of the other. What's sad though, is that people don't realize society allows their type of attitude because each of you fought for that freedom. I know so many of you do not want to remember those times, but I appreciate you and want to say *mvto*, again and again because I can live the life I want, do the things I enjoy, and practice my culture openly.

I hope, on Nov. 11, each of you are in some place or at an activity where you are honored. Those of you who remember, know I have given two of the four eagle feathers pledged to the Muscogee Nation on behalf of my late father, Harry Henneha, my uncle Johnson J. Harjo, my brother Charles Henneha, and my son, Matthew Henneha. Those are currently in the office of historic preservation [at the tribal capitol complex]. This year, I will continue to honor that pledge with the third eagle feather. Although I might be just one person, know that my love for you cannot be measured and I will always keep you in my prayers. All I ask is that you keep my son in your prayers and to provide me with any information about my father since I was four years old when he died.

Valeria Henneha Littlecreek, Okemah

Editor's note: Littlecreek is the former tribal director of human development.

Clarification

Muscogee (Creek) National Council Okmulgee District Representative Abe McIntosh has voted against the tribe's proposed motor fuels tax compact with state of Oklahoma at both the Sept. 12 extraordinary session and Sept. 19 special session. His vote at the first meeting was reported incorrectly in the September edition of *The Muscogee Nation News*.

Resolutions repeal support for town governments

continued from page 1

tions.

Voting for TR 96-10 were (representatives listed alphabetically, followed by district): **Mike Berryhill**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; **Steve Bruner**, Tulsa; **Johnson Buck**, Tukvpvtce; **Helen Chupco**, Muskogee; **Irene Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **Ron Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **A.D. Ellis**, Okmulgee; **Anderson Hale**, Okmulgee; **Clyde Johnson**, Okfuskee; **Jess Kelley**, Tulsa; **Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Harley Little**, Muskogee; **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **Abe McIntosh**, Okmulgee; **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Tom Pickering**, McIntosh; **Bruce Smith**, Okfuskee; **George Tiger**, Creek; **Phyllis Warrington**, Creek; **Nancy Watson**, Okfuskee; and **Earl Wheeler**, Creek.

Absent were: **Larry Bible**, Tulsa District; **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes. Speaker **Wilbur Gouge** conducted the meeting.

The vote for TR 96-11 was 20-0-2. Abstaining were: **I. Cleghorn** and **R. Cleghorn**, both of Tulsa.

The vote for TR 96-12 was 20-0-2. Abstaining were: **I. Cleghorn** and **R. Cleghorn**, both of Tulsa.

The vote for TR 96-13 was 20-0-2. Abstaining were: **I Cleghorn** and **R. Cleghorn**, both of Tulsa.

Also approved at the Oct. 14 special session were:

• TR 96-15, a resolution supporting federal legislation granting administrative oversight of Haskell Indian Nations University to the school. The vote supporting the resolution was 22-0; and

• an amendment to National Council Act 96-89, a continuing budget ordinance for fiscal year 1997. The amendment allows any federal grant or contract with a multi-year funding agreement to be appropriated at 100 percent. The vote was 21-1. Voting against the amendment was **A. McIntosh**, Okmulgee.

Tribal tags available February

continued from page 1

• a certificate of tribal membership

A copy of the proof of tribal membership must accompany the title register and registration receipt.

For additional information, contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tax Commission at 1 (800) 482-1979 or (918) 756-8700, ext. 393.

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to *The Muscogee Nation News*, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in *The Muscogee Nation News*, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of *The Muscogee Nation News*, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions is the third Friday of every month. *The Muscogee Nation News* reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

James Wolfe, managing editor
Stephanie B. Berryhill, senior staff writer
Summer Barnes, secretary

Tribal Council approves cigarette tax increase

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee National Council approved a one-half cent tax increase on cigarettes at the Oct. 26 regular session.

The 26-member tribal legislature increased the tribal tax to five and one-half cents ($.055) per package of cigarettes. The tax is expected to generate $50,000 annually based on previous sales data. The money will be used exclusively for capital improvements at the tribal complex.

The vote was 22 yes, none against, and one abstention. Voting for the tax increase were (representatives listed alphabetically followed by district): **Mike Berryhill**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa; **Johnson Buck**, Tukvpvtce; **Helen Chupco**, Muskogee; **Irene Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **Ron Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **A.D. Ellis**, Okmulgee; **Anderson Hale**, Okmulgee; **Clyde Johnson**, Okfuskee; **Jess Kelley**, Tulsa; **Dave Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Harley Little**, Muskogee; **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **Abe McIntosh**, Okmulgee; **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Tom Pickering**; McIntosh; **Bruce Smith**, Okfuskee; **George Tiger**, Creek; **Phyllis Warrington**, Creek; **Nancy Watson**, Okfuskee; and **Earl Wheeler**, Creek.

Abstaining was **Steve Bruner**, Tulsa. Absent from the meeting was **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes. Tukvpvtce District Seat B remains vacant. Speaker **Wilbur Gouge** conducted the meeting.

In other business, the Council:

— unanimously agreed (23-0) to return to committee a bill reorganizing the gaming operations authority board;

— approved unanimously (23-0) to authorize the principal chief to seek trust status for land owned by the Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Association and appropriated $1,200 from the interest on the permanent fund account for closing costs;

— approved unanimously (23-0) an amendment to National Council Act 96-61 (the tribal fire fighters program) to allow carry over funds to be used in fiscal year 1997;

— approved (21-0-2) an appropriation of $80,170 from various sources for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Manufacturing Enterprise. Abstaining were: **I. Cleghorn**, Tulsa; and **Little**, Muskogee;

— approved unanimously (23-0) an amendment to NCA 96-15 which amended the tribal health administration's comprehensive annual budget. The amendment includes additional funds received for the health administration;

— approved (22-1) an appropriation of $5,000 from the interest on the permanent fund to continue codification of tribal laws, ordinances, acts, resolutions, and rules of procedure. Voting no was **Lowe**, Tukvpvtce;

— approved unanimously (23-0) a budget modification for the tribal election board to conduct the Nov. 2 runoff election;

— approved (22-0-1) to facilitate negotiations with the City of Tulsa regarding the Riverside Drive extension. Plans for the extension would involve land owned by the tribe near 81st Street and Riverside Drive. Abstaining was **Little**, Muskogee;

— approved unanimously (23-0) a $6,000 appropriation to Tallahassee Methodist Church for the installation of a septic tank;

— approved unanimously (23-0) an amendment to NCA 96-54 (a request for Hillabeee ceremonial grounds be placed in trust). The amendment gives the correct legal description for the grounds;

— approved unanimously (23-0) a continuing ordinance allowing most programs and services to be funded at another 8.3 percent of the 1997 comprehensive annual budget; and

— approved unanimously (23-0), a tribal resolution supporting the Cherokee Nation's assumption of the operations of the Tahlequah Service Unit of Indian Health Service at W.W. Hastings Hospital.

National Council changes November meeting dates

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) National Council has adjusted its November schedule to the following:

- planning session, Nov. 19; and
- regular session, Nov. 23.

The changes were made because of Thanksgiving. Tribal offices will be closed Nov. 11 for Veterans Day and Nov. 28 and 29 for Thanksgiving.

Yahola wins special election

OKMULGEE — Former Muscogee (Creek) National Council Speaker Thomas Yahola returns to the tribal legislature after winning a Nov. 2 special election.

Yahola defeated Tim Fife, himself a former Tukvpvtce district representative, 224-193. The results were unofficial as *The Muscogee Nation News* went to press Nov. 5.

"I publicly want to thank the voters of Tukvpvtce district for electing me to serve as your representative to the National Council of the Muscogee Nation," Yahola said. "I have great appreciation to those that assisted me in this campaign and to those who had words of support and encouragement. My pledge is to serve you and our nation with integrity and honesty. *Mvto*."

A Wetumka resident, Yahola served two terms on the tribal council previously. He is retired from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Yahola will complete the term of Edwin Marshall, who resigned his position to become the tribe's deputy director of community services. He is expected to take the oath of office at the Nov. 23 regular session at the tribal capitol complex.

Voting results by precinct:

Dustin	Wetumka
Fife — 58	Fife — 40
Yahola — 17	Yahola — 76
Holdenville	Absentee
Fife — 48	Fife — 47
Yahola — 56	Yahola — 72

Notices

Five tribes proclaim Indian education

SULPHUR — The Intertribal Council of the Five Tribes proclaimed November as Indian Education Month at its quarterly meeting Oct. 11. The proclamation reads in part:

Whereas the Intertribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes is dedicated to providing education services to all youth and families within their respective jurisdictional service areas; and

Whereas the Intertribal Council continues to support literacy and to promote and encourage lifelong learning for all its tribal members; and

Whereas the week of Nov. 18 through 22 has been deemed by the President as National Indian Education Week;

Now therefore, we the chiefs and the governor of the Five Civilized Tribes, do hereby proclaim November 1996 as Indian Education Month and encourage all tribal employees, institutions, organizations, and interested groups to join with the education profession in support of appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities designed to achieve its goals.

The proclamation was signed by the intertribal executive committee.

Citizen to perform at Kids' World

TULSA — Muscogee citizen Wilburn Hill is the featured performer at Kids' World '96, a children's international festival Nov. 14 through 17 at Exchange Center 1 at Expo Square at the Tulsa County Fairgrounds. Hill will perform at 10 a.m and again at 11 a.m., Nov. 16.

Hill is the artistic director for Project: Mahenwahdose, a production company striving for accurate and authentic portrayals of American Indians.

Admission to Kids' World '96 is $3. The event is billed as a celebration of the world through the eyes of a child and is presented by Tulsa Global Alliance. The event is open from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Nov. 14 through 16 and noon to 5 p.m., Nov. 17. Portions of the proceeds will benefit Children's Medical Center Foundation. For more information, contact Cristina Williams at (918) 596-7839.

Tulsa seeks firefighter candidates

TULSA — The City of Tulsa will be evaluating candidates for firefighters for its fire department Dec. 9 through 12. The city is actively recruiting qualified minorities and females for the position of firefighter. For information regarding available test times, call the Tulsa city job line at (918) 596-7444. For additional information, call the TFD Recruitment Officer at (918) 596-9418.

WWII video available

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department has completed its production "World War II: A Muscogee (Creek) Retrospect." Several Muscogee veterans were interviewed about their war experiences. The production also features archival footage and is available in VHS format. For information and ordering, contact Gerald Wofford at (918) 756-8700.

Program briefs

Energy assistance available

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Social Services will accept applications for low income home energy assistance program (LIHEAP) for propane users beginning Oct. 28. Applications can be made at the program offices at the tribal capitol complex, U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56, or at the social services' field offices. Applicants are required to furnish the following information:

- head of household must have certificate degree of Indian blood (CDIB);
- show proof of income for all household occupants; and
- provide social security numbers for all household members.

Funds for households using natural gas and wood are expected to be available at a later date. For more information, call (918) 756-8700 ext. 280, or 1 (800) 482-1979.

Child care office increases work load

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Nation Office of Child Care anticipates a twofold increase in the number of children served through its program.

The increase is attributed to changes made by the federal welfare reform bill approved by Congress and signed by President Bill Clinton.

Funding for the office of child care grew to $4.6 million from $1.5 million in fiscal year 1996. The increase will be necessary to meet the need for child care services to American Indian children residing within the tribal jurisdiction area.

The welfare reform act repeals the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) and replaces that program with Temporary Assistance for Need Families (TANF). Among the program requirements are the requirement of parents to be employed to receive assistance and limits program participation to five years.

The office of child care subsidizes the cost of child care for eligible families. Parents may choose any provider they desire as long as tribal standards are met. The office of child care also provides licensing, monitoring, and provider training to assure a healthy, safe environment for children.

Since the inception of the child care assistance program, 2,375 clients have been served.

For more information, contact the office of child care at (918) 758-1463.

Tribe picks economic specialist

OKMULGEE — Muscogee citizen Darrell Fox has been named economic development specialist for the tribe. Fox, 40, is a graduate of Mounds High School. He has attended the University of Houston and the University of Tulsa. Fox was previously employed with The Bovaird Supply Co., Houston, Texas.

photo by Jim Wolfe

Work continues on the Muscogee Nation travel plaza project in Okmulgee. Here electricians work on connections at the foundation.

Tribe receives federal grant for new child development center

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Nation has been awarded a $739,959 federal grant to construct a child development center.

Principal Chief Perry Beaver said the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development grant awarded the tribe the money through its Indian community development block grant program. The tribe's application was one of 15 funded from 38 proposed projects.

The grant was prepared by Russell Torbett, grant writer for the tribe.

Funding considerations include the development of American Indian communities through decent housing, suitable living environments, and economic opportunities.

The child development center will be used to house a day care center as well as the office of child care, its programs, and activities. The current facility is too small to accommodate the program administrative staff and children's activities.

"This office would like to express our gratitude to Principal Chief Perry Beaver for his dedication and support expanding our services to Muscogee citizens through the coordination of the child development centers," said Janet Wise, program manager.

"The vision of providing a well-rounded full day care program to our children has finally been realized. Our office is excited and eager to provide child care services, as well as employment opportunities to our people."

Plans are for the center to be built north of the human development center at the tribal capitol complex. The building will be similar in design to the community services and human development buildings, maintaining architectural continuity for new construction.

Performing arts

Citizen to autograph autobiography

TULSA — Muscogee citizen Vincent Mendoza will be signing copies of his autobiography "Son of Two Bloods" Nov. 14 at Barnes and Noble Book Sellers, 8620 E. 71st Street. Mendoza, the son of Martha Mendoza of Tulsa, and the grandson of the late Newman and Annie McIntosh, is the 1996 recipient of the North American Indian Prose Award.

Posey play presented

TULSA — Tulsa Indian Actor's Workshop presents "Indian Meadowlark" Nov. 21 through 24 at the Liddy Doenges Studio in the Tulsa Performing Arts Center.

Meadowlark is an original script written by Julie Pearson Little-Thunder about the life of Muscogee journalist and poet Alexander Posey. Posey founded the Eufaula *Indian Journal* and created Fus Fixico, a literary voice with a turn-of-the-century full blood perspective.

Little Thunder is the artistic director of Tulsa Indian Actors Workshop. Directing the play is Muscogee citizen Bob Hicks of Los Angeles. Hicks has many production and directing credits in theater, film, and television. He is also one of the founders of American Indian Theater Company of Oklahoma. Muscogee citizen and textile artist Jay McGirt is the play's costume designer. Cherokee actor Wes Studi (Dances With Wolves, Heat) will appear as Chitto Harjo. Eastern Shawnee actor Harold Blalock will portray Posey.

The workshop received a $3,500 production grant from the Oklahoma Arts Council and a grant from the Performing Arts Center Trust. Tickets are $15 and $13. For reservations, call the PAC ticket office at: (918) 596-7111.

Did you know that:

• American Indian soldiers that volunteered to defend this country during World War I were not yet citizens of the U.S.;

• that your American citizenship (1924) is attributed to the outstanding voluntaryism of American Indian peoples in World War I;

• your right to vote was made possible because of American Indian veterans of World War I;

• the Osage tribe was the first sovereign nation to declare war on the Japanese on the afternoon of the attack on Pearl Harbor, Dec. 7, 1941 — one day preceding the U.S.

• the U.S. most powerful weapon used to defeat the Japanese at Iwo Jima (Feb. 19, 1945) was an Indian language. "Navajo Code Talker" Sam Tso and a special group of young Navajo Marines used their tribal language to transmit vital military information. An oral language of great complexity, it proved to be one code the Japanese could not break.

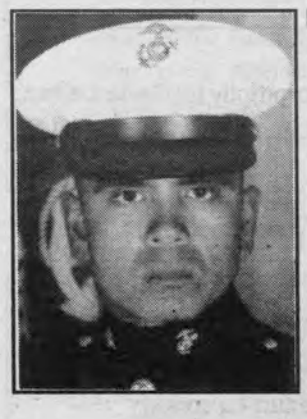
Willie Ellis

Johnny Hicks

Nokose Bear and Solomon Bullit

Henry Bear

Franklin Hill



Raymond Holata

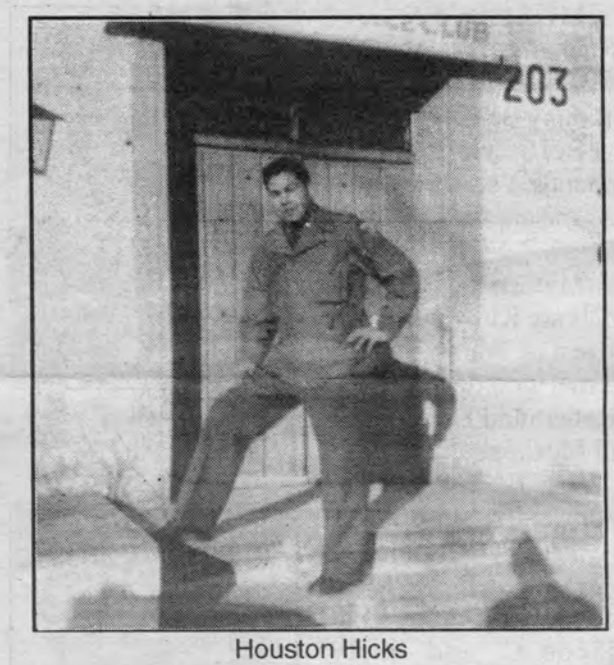
Tony Hicks

The Committee of *Osten* has almost completed the encoding of Muscogee veterans' names.

Before putting the data in permanent record, the committee would like to have the tribal town and clan of each veteran entered, if known.

Muscogee veterans wanting to be included in the in the database may contact: Phillip Coon, P.O. Box 2292, Sapulpa, OK 74066; or Jorene Coker, P.O. Box 157, Preston, OK 74456.

Information submitted should include: name; branch of service; tour duty-dates; special information such as prisoner of war, medals earned, and other honors; tribal town; and clan.



Houston Hicks

As Veterans Day approaches, veterans of all ages and from many eras will be remembered and recognized at church and family dinners, honored by their communities, and spotlighted by the media.

On Nov. 11th make a list of thoughtful tasks you can perform throughout the year to demonstrate your appreciation for the ensurance of freedoms we enjoy today.

Visit your local Veterans of Foreign Wars Post or contact The Committee of *Osten*. They will likely welcome your willingness to contribute and offer suggestions on what you can do to enrich the lives of local veterans by offering your time and thoughfulness.

The Muscogee Nation News wishes veterans gladdened hearts and sound health all year long.

Birthdays

Christyn Barnett

OKMULGEE — Christyn Lynn Barnett was born to Acee Barnett and Diane Beasley, Okmulgee, on Aug. 29 at Okmulgee Memorial Hospital.

Barnett belongs to the Bird Clan and Nuyaka Tribal Town.

She weighed 8 pounds, 3 ounces and was 19 inches in length.

Her maternal grandparents are Cheryl Grayson of Beggs and Freeman Lowe of Okmulgee. Paternal grandparents are Dan and Jennie Barnett of Eufaula.

Barnett

Rachel Bell

MUSKOGEE — Rachel Elizabeth Bell was born to Roger and Tammy Bell on May 14.

Bell weighed 7 pounds, 1 ounce and was 20 and one-half inches in length.

Maternal grandparents are Kirby and Lillie Boen of Wainright. Paternal grandparents are Robert and Louise Bell of Muskogee.

Bell

Alexandria Mosquito

DAYTON, Ohio — Alexandria Renee Mosquito was born June 5 to Jacob C. and Misty Renee Mosquito.

Mosquito weighed 7 pounds, 13 and one-half ounces and was 20 inches in length.

Paternal grandparents are Craig and Debbie Mosquito of Mounds.

Her great-grandparents are: Tom and Mary Shirley, Okmulgee; and Willie and the late Lena Mosquito of Mounds. Maternal great-grandparents are Eddie and Beth Shelton of Middletown, Ohio.

Her great-great-grandmother is Melissa McCoy of Okmulgee.

Mosquito

Morris boy celebrates third birthday

MORRIS — Zachary Elias Roberts celebrated his third birthday on Oct. 1.

Celebrating with Roberts were: his parents, Danny and Janell; brother, Daniel; paternal grandfather, Stanley Roberts of Okmulgee; maternal grandparents, William and Eillene of Morris; and friends, Wayne, Cindi, and Jamie Golightly.

Roberts

Father and son make good martial arts team

BROKEN ARROW — Sutton Shotokan Karate students Danny and Daniel Roberts of Morris have achieved the rank of a low purple belt.

They study under the direction of instructor Efrem Sutton.

Roberts; J. Roberts; Z. Roberts; and Daniel Roberts

The younger Roberts participated in a youth tournament at the Boys and Girls Salvation Army recently. He competed in categories of forms and sparring also; he placed second in forms.

Mother and wife, Janelle, is a student of Shotokan Karate also; she holds the rank of orange belt.

The youngest Roberts, Zachary, has expressed interest in the art and will take classes in the future.

Education briefs

Sequoyah girl receives best student award

TAHLEQUAH — Sequoyah High School senior Aleisha Keahna Turner has received an award for "best citizen award."

The 18-year-old Muscogee-Seminole-Cherokee has been active in extracurricular activities including: National Honor Society; American Indian Science and Engineering Society; Spanish Club; and Future Homemakers of America.

The Muskogee native also received a writing award. Tuner has attended all of her high school years at SHS. She encourages underclassmen — "stay in school and always do your best."

She is the daughter of Marquetta Harrison and Dale Turner. She has one older brother, Shane.

Euchee Mission alumni seek to hold reunion

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — Euchee Mission alumni Gene Leitka and Marvin "Creamy" Lunsford are distributing a questionnaire to determine the number of alumni, staff, family, and friends interested in attending a reunion.

Euchee Mission Reunion Questionnaire

- are you: — student — staff — other
- if student, give years of attendance: — to —
- if employee, years of employment: — to —
- if you are friend or family member check: —
- would you attend a reunion: — yes — no
- if so, what year, month: _____
- would you be willing to assist: — yes — no
- would you help locate addresses of former students, employees: — yes — no
- preference for reunion location: — Sapulpa — Oakhurst — Tulsa _____ other
- name: _____

address: _____

_____

phone: _____

Please clip and return promptly to: **Gene Leitka, 3420 Black Hills Rd. N.E., Albuquerque, N.M. 86111.**

Seminole-Mvskoke girl attends U.S. Olympic Committee camp, coordinates Mason School "Olympicfest"

MASON — The first Mason School "Olympicfest" was held for kindergarten through 6th-graders Oct. 15th and 16th.

The event was a project of Seminole-Mvskoke senior Alisa Douglas. As a participant of Passing the Torch; Youth Sports Leadership Academy, the final phase of her involvement included returning to her community to exemplify what was learned at the academy.

She was made eligible for the academy when she placed as a runner-up in an essay contest sponsored by the Native American Sports Council. Douglas wrote about sports and how it is related to her tribe. She attended the U.S. Olympic Committee-sponsored academy last June at North Georgia College, Dahlonega, Ga.

The two-day event included athletic competitions in: 100 yard dash; 50 yard dash; long jump; discus throw; and shot put.

She plans to hold another olympic festival for seventh through 12th-graders in the spring. Part of "Passing the Torch" will include her selection of a junior class member that will hold the events after she graduates. Douglas hopes this expression of the olympic spirit will continue at Mason as well as instill self esteem in students and help them achieve goals.

Fourth grade students Amy York, Ashley Hicks, and Evelyn Jones compete in the 100-yard dash.
photo by Stephanie Berryhill

Obituaries

FARCEY COACHMAN

LITTLE COWETA — Funeral services for Farcey "Couchee" Coachman were held Sept. 26 at Little Coweta Baptist Church with his cousin, Rev. Gary Hawkins, officiating.

Coachman

Coachman died Sept. 23 at his home in Stidham. He was born April 13, 1937 to May Bell Hawkins and Cooley Coachman. Coachman belonged to the Deer Clan and Oce Apofv Tribal Town.

Coachman attended Stidham School. He served in the U.S. Air Force from 1956 to 1960. He graduated from Oklahoma State University Technical School as a machinist. Coachman was employed by Kerr-McGee for 16 years until retiring because of ill health.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a sister, Christine Jacobs Leon.

He is survived by: a daughter, Lola McClendon of Gainesville, Texas; two sons, Chuck Coachman of Gainesville, Texas; and Frank Coachman of Vian; three sisters, JoAnn Skaggs of Eufaula, Joyce Bailey of Del City, and Freda Determan of Taylorville, Ill.; three brothers, Charles Skaggs of Checotah, James Skaggs of Yukon, and David Skaggs of Mendota, Calif.; two aunts, Grace Overman of Texanna and Lizzie Hawkins of Stidham; and one uncle, Andrew Hawkins of Stidham; seven grandchildren; and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Burial was in the Hawkins Family Cemetery.

MATTIE HARJO

OKEMAH — Funeral services for Mattie Byrd Harjo were held Oct. 23 at High Spring Baptist Church with Revs. Jimmy Anderson and Leon Postoak officiating.

Harjo died Oct. 20 at Okemah. She was born Sept. 27, 1898 at Hanna to Thomas and Dudie Byrd. Harjo was raised in the Hanna area. As a child she attended school at Weogufkee and Trenton churches near Hanna. She later attended school at: Wetumka Mission, the Creek Orphan Home, Okmulgee; Eufaula Boarding School; Dwight Mission; and Chilocco Boarding School.

In 1922 she married James Harjo at Weleetka. They made their first home there, later moving to Pharoah where they resided for 20 years. For a short time they lived in Seminole before returning to Pharoah. They settled in Weleetka in 1955.

She was a longtime member of Weogufkee Baptist Church; she later moved her membership to Alabama Baptist Church near Weleetka. Her life was dedicated to service, having served as chairperson of the Murrow Orphans' Home in Muskogee for six years. She was active in the Muscogee-Seminole-Wichita Baptist Association and served on several committees including the stewardship committee. She served on the Baptist Assembly Ground Committee for 10 years and continued to work at the grounds after her tenure. Much of her life's work was directed toward missions. She served as missionary at Caddo Mission and Beaver Baptist Church near Tahlequah. During this time she served her local church as Sunday school teacher in the Baptist Training Union and Women's Missionary Union also.

She was preceded in death by: her parents; her husband; brothers, Billy Byrd, Josie Simmons, and Rev. Coleman Byrd; a sister, Ida Ellis; and a daughter, Wanda Jean Wind.

Survivors include: two sons, Eugene Douglas Harjo of Oklahoma City and Joseph Harjo of the home; two sisters, Josephine Wind of Wetumka and Bernice Harjo of Sealey; 14 grandchildren; 24 great-grandchildren; six great-great-grandchildren; several nieces; nephews; other relatives; and friends.

THOMAS HARJO

DUSTIN — Funeral services for Thomas Deere Harjo were held Oct. 8 at Sand Creek Baptist Church.

He died Oct. 4 in Okemah. Harjo was born June 7, 1925 in Hughes County to Yahola and Lena Harjo. He was a farmer and former employee of Webb Funeral Home. He was a member of Sand Creek Baptist Church.

He was preceded in death by: his parents; one sister; and one son.

Survivors include: three sons, Richard Harjo of Tulsa, Tommy Harjo of Holdenville, and Roy Harjo of Seminole; seven daughters, Nellie Butler of Tulsa, Elizabeth Deere of Arizona, Betty Hicks and Janice Green, both of Weleetka, Melissa Harjo of Ada, Helen Powell Harjo and Alice Ross, both of Holdenville; one sister, Nancy Harjo of Tulsa; 26 grandchildren; and 23 great-grandchildren.

Interment was in the Harjo Family Cemetery

LORA JENNINGS

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — Funeral services for original allottee Lora Patton Bowden Jennings were held Oct. 2 at French Mortuary with Revs. Don Wiley and Edwin Zellner officiating.

She died Sept. 27 in Albuquerque. Jennings was born Sept. 27, 1902 in Indian Territory to John P. and Emma Butler Patton.

Jennings and her sister, Ora Patton, were educated at Hoffman School and Haskell Institute, Lawrence, Kan. She was married to Marvin Bowden from 1920 to 1939. During World War II she served with the 199th Women's Army Corps Detachment assigned to the 9th Army Air Corps in Europe. The former Okmulgee resident was a member of Heights Baptist Church in Albuquerque. She married James B. Jennings in Albuquerque in 1947.

Preceding her in death were: her husband; a grandson, John Scroggins; and three sisters, Ora Patton Peters, Dora Patton, and Alma Crisp.

She is survived by: two daughters, Wanda Zellner and Joyce Scroggins, both of Albuquerque; six grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and four great-great-grandchildren; and one sister, Marie Crisp Mahoney of Oklahoma City.

Pallbearers were: Donald Holmes Jr.; Wayne Zellner; Wayne Zellner Jr.; Ed Peters; Jeffrey McElwain; Daniel Holmes; and Patrick Gore.

Interment was in Sunset Memorial Park, Albuquerque.

please see **OBITUARIES...**, page 8

Religion

Salt Creek to hold harvest dinner

SALT CREEK — Salt Creek United Methodist Church will hold a harvest dinner Nov. 9th from noon to 6 p.m.

The cost is $6 for adults and $3 for children.

The dinner will be held at Holdenville Indian Community Center. The center is located at 416 E. Poplar.

For more information, call (405) 379-5825.

Bemo announces fourth Sunday date

TULSA — Bemo Baptist Church will hold fourth Sunday services Nov. 17.

Sunday school begins at 10 a.m. The worship service will begin at 11 a.m.

Christmas services have been scheduled for Dec. 15.

The church is located at 13323 S. 73rd.

Tuskegee Baptist to hold revival

EUFAULA — Tuskegee Baptist Church is holding a revival Nov. 20, 21, and 22 at seven nightly.

The speaker will be Rev. A.J. Tiger, Silver Springs Baptist Church pastor.

The church is located six miles west of Eufaula on state highway 9 and three-fourths of a mile south on Mill Creek Bay Road.

Hymns to be preserved at taping

SHAWNEE — Muscogee and Seminole singers are invited to assist in preserving native Christian hymns at Oklahoma Baptist University.

The hymns will be recorded and taped by professionals and made available to the public.

The coordinator's goal is to have 1,000 people of all church densominations attending.

For more information, call Bill Barnett at: (405) 273-6500; or (405) 382-4040.

Obituaries

continued from page 7

MAGGIE HILL

Funeral services for Maggie Hill were held Sept. 28 at Robert Simons Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. George Doyle officiating.

Hill died Sept. 25. She was born Sept. 26, 1927 in Okemah to Cheparney and Sarah Hicks. She lived there until 1947. She married Freeman Hill on Sept. 26, 1947 in Okemah. She lived in Wetumka from 1947 to 1964. Hill had lived in Bristow since 1964. She was a member of Buckeye Baptist Church.

She was preceded in death by: her parents; and one brother, Jessie Hill.

Survivors include: her husband of the home; three sons, Riley of Stroud, Danny of Tulsa, and Franklin of the home; one daughter, Maxine of Bristow; three brothers, Wilson, Hanson, and Banson Hicks, all of Okemah; two sisters, Louise Burgess of Welty and Joann Powell of Bristow; nine grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Burial was in the Hill Family Cemetery.

BETTE KIRST

FORT THOMAS, Ky. — Funeral services for Bette Jo Kirst were held Sept. 24 at St. Thomas Church.

She died Sept. 20 at St. Luke Hospital East in Fort Thomas. She was born to Pleasant "Duke" Luther Berryhill July 15, 1922 in Hitchita.

She was an artist and photographer with Color Crest Studio and B.P. Photographics. Kirst was a member of St. Thomas Church. She was a member of: Ft. Thomas Heritage League; John R. Little Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 3186, Southgate; Professional Photography Association; Campbell County Genealogy and Historical Association. She was past president of Tri State Professional Photographers.

Survivors include: her husband, Paul J. Kirst; sons, Terry P. Kirst, Indianapolis, Fla. and Gregory A. Kirst, Cold Spring, Fla.; and daughters, Susan A. Sticksel, Excelsior, Minn., and Sandra Hoy Koenig, Cincinnati; a brother, Charles Berryhill, Independence, Mo.; and 12 grandchildren.

Interment was in St. Stephen Cemetery.

JAMES McCOMBS

TUSKEGEE — Funeral services for Rev. James McCombs were held Oct. 5 at Tuskegee Baptist Church with Revs. Rudolph Colbert and George Jesse officiating.

McCombs died Oct. 3 at a Talihina hospital. He was born April 23, 1915 in Eufaula to James and Ella McIntosh McCombs. He attended school at Oak Grove in the Vivian community. He married Phippie Charles on Sept. 23, 1941. He was a private first class in the 202nd Anti Aircraft Artillery Weapons Battalion. He was awarded the Philippine Liberation Ribbon with Bronze Star, Purple Heart, and Bronze Arrowhead. He was a retired farmer. McCombs was a minister and member and pastor of Tuskegee. He enjoyed Mvskoke singing very much. He enjoyed attending reunions of his Army battalion group also.

Survivors include: his sister, Martha McCombs, Okmulgee; three brothers, Thomas, Elmer, and Perry McCombs, all of Eufaula; a niece and two grandnephews of Westminster, Md.

Burial, with military honors by Eufaula Lake Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 8798, was in Greenwood Cemetery.

SANDRA SANDS

OKEMAH — Funeral services for Sandra Simahya Sands were held Oct. 3 at Greenleaf Baptist Church with Revs. Tim Brittain and Charlie Hicks officiating.

A wake service was held Oct. 2 at Robert Simons Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Wesley Berry officiating.

Sands died Sept. 28 in Preston. She was born June 4, 1958 in Kennewick, Wash. to Alvin Buddy and Margaret Drew Sands.

Sands, an Okmulgee resident, attended school in Weleetka. She married Bill Fraser on March 23, 1988 in Okemah and worked as a cashier for E-Z Mart Stores. She was a member of the Azusa Praise and Worship Center, Okmulgee.

Survivors include: her husband of the home; two sons, Derek and Johnny Harjo; two daughters, Margaret Sands and Erica Harjo, all of the home; one brother, Alvin Daniel Sands of Texas; one sister, Diane Tiger Chastain of Weleetka; one niece; three nephews; and one granddaughter.

Pallbearers were: James Byrne; Gary Fraser; George Fraser Jr.; Kevin Crawford; and Donald Crawford.

Interment was in the family cemetery.

BRENDA SMITH

HENRYETTA — Funeral services for Brenda Smith were held at Shurden Funeral Chapel.

Smith died Sept. 28 in Preston. She was born July 12 in Casagrande, Ariz. to Fred A. and Marie Haynes Smith.

She was employed as a store clerk for E-Z Mart Stores, Inc.

Smith was preceded in death by: her father in 1985; and a brother, Robert Smith, in 1995.

Survivors include: a daughter, Brandis Fish of the home; mother, Marie Conley of Okmulgee; two brothers, Gerald Smith of Henryetta and Donald Smith of Dewar; seven nieces; two nephews; and her grandmother, Annie Haynes.

Interment was in New Sonora Cemetery.

BETSY TARYOLE

OKMULGEE — Funeral services for Betsy L. Taryole were held Oct. 9 at the First Indian Baptist Church of Okmulgee with Rev. Wayne Taryole officiating.

Wake services were held Oct. 8 at Robert Simmons Funeral Home.

Taryole died Oct. 5 in Ada. She was born July 31, 1913 in Hoffman to Sam and Louisa Leeder.

She was a previous resident of Albuquerque, N.M., Utah, and California also. She was a member of the First Indian Baptist Church of Albuquerque.

She was preceded in death by: two sisters; three sons; and one grandson.

Survivors include: two sons, Wayne Taryole of Albuquerque and Steve Taryole of Pocatello, Idaho; daughter, Norma Cardiac of Mebane, N.C.; one sister, Eliza Starr of Henryetta; nine grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Burial was in the Taryole Family Cemetery.

Gratitude

We would like to thank everyone who offered us support during the loss of our loved one.

We extend our gratitude to all including Little Coweta Bapist Church members and Rev. Gary Hawkins.

Mvto.

Farsey Coachman Family

We would like say "mvto, mvto" to the following: High Springs Baptist Church; Ralph Henneha; all that dug the grave; Donnie McNac Sound Systems; Revs. Jimmie Anderson, Leon Postoak, and Felix Tiger; the churches that held prayer services in the home; Creek Nation Community Hospital staff; Okemah Indian Health Center staff; and Buckley-Williamson Funeral Home.

We also express our appreciation to those who gave provisions, services, flowers, cards, love, and prayers in honor of our mother's reward of eternal life.

Mattie Harjo Family

We take this means to express our appreciation to the Muscogee National Council — for the lovely plant — tribal social services, and all that assisted us during the loss of our brother.

Rev. James McCombs Family

We would like to thank friends and family for cooking, sending food, monetary contributions, cards, and flowers during the loss of our loved one.

We offer a special thanks to Revs. Charlie Hicks and Tim Brittain.

We will not forget the kindness shown to our family during this time.

Sandra Sands Family

The Muscogee Nation News

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Season's Greetings!

A holiday message from Principal Chief Perry Beaver

During this joyous but hectic holiday season, I want to take this opportunity to wish each of you the very best of the season. My family and I wish you health and happiness for this Christmas and for the New Year.

Christmas to all of us is a time of gathering family together to celebrate the birth of the Savior, and of our lives together. It is a time of remembrance — cherishing memories of times past and loved ones no longer with us. It is also a season of hope for each New Year brings new opportunities, new goals and dreams to fulfill and renewed expectations.

It is our wish that each of you experience the true spirit of the season — sharing and reaching out with love and compassion to others in need and to let that spirit guide us in goodwill toward one another.

May your holiday season be filled with family, friends, fellowship, and an abundance of good things. May you and yours have a safe, happy, and prosperous New Year!

photo by Jim Wolfe

Muscogee Nation Principal Chief Perry Beaver (center) prepares to cut the ribbon to symbolize the opening of the tribe's child development center. Other tribal officials pictured are, from left: Janet Wise, child care manager; Edwin Marshall, community services director; Jerry Greenwood, executive director; George Almerigi, second chief; and Gena Ballard, development center manager.

Colorado's Campbell expected to lead Senate's committee Indian affairs in 1997

WASHINGTON — U.S. Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell is expected to assume leadership of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs when the 105th Congress convenes in January.

"The Muscogee Nation is very pleased with the [expected] selection of Sen. Campbell as the chairman of the Indian affairs committee," said Principal Chief Perry Beaver in a statement released from his office. "We have full confidence in him in this critical position.

Speculation regarding the leadership of the committee generated much political activity in Indian country. Many tribes believed Sen. Slade Gorton (R-Wash.) would succeed Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.) as committee chair.

Gorton, the former Washington state attorney general, was head of the Interior related agencies appropriations subcommittee that sought to reduce appropriations to the Bureau of Indian Affairs and other Indian programs. It was reported in the Dec. 5 edition of *The Washington Post*, that Gorton agreed to not seek the leadership position of the Indian affairs committee.

McCain received support from numerous tribes including the Muscogee Nation, for his retention as chair of the committee. Reports from the Indian affairs committee staff, has McCain becoming the chair of the commerce committee. Appeals were also made to the U.S. Senate leadership for McCain to chair the committee.

"Sen. McCain has been a tireless fighter for our rights and we want him to know that we have appreciated his fairness and support of issues that affect us," Beaver said.

Ironically, Oklahoma's senior senator, Don Nickles, was to succeed McCain as committee chair. Nickles, elected to the Senate in 1980, holds the second highest Senate leadership position as majority whip. In that role, Nickles could have tremendous

please see **CAMPBELL**..., page two

Health, peace, & sweet content be yours.

Muscogee Nation Communications

Letters to the editor

Citizen reports successful class

Editor:

I am happy to report that we had a great six weeks of Mvskoke language sessions starting with 17 enrolled increasing to 26 students receiving awards. Five others received honorary awards for attending three sessions or less.

Thanks to our Chief Perry Beaver for his letter of blessing and also to our second chief and his wife for being with us at the last session. The students brought delicious food and we shared the joy of accomplishment together.

Special thanks to Ann Jones and her mother, ailing with the other staff for letting us use the classroom at Bartlett Memorial Medical Center and also for some of the business people working with us Mvskoke Nation people.

Rev. John L. Fixico, Sapulpa

Speaker thanks volunteers

Editor:

I would like to extend a special thanks to all citizens, players, spectators, concession stand workers, referees, coaches, and all volunteers participating in the first coed open basketball tournament held Nov. 29 and 30 in Okmulgee.

A special thanks to: Carla Cantrell, lighthorse administration; Ruthie Burgess, National Council; Floyd Jones, environmental services administration; and Marsey Scott, lighthorse administration chief.

Mvto for a job well done.

Wilbur Gouge, Speaker, National Council

Editor's note: The benefit basketball tournament was sponsored by the National Council and lighthorse administration to raise money for the surviving family of the late Sandra Sands and Brenda Smith; tribal members who were murdered in September.

Legal notice

Printed in *The Muscogee Nation News*, volume 25, issue 12, December 1996.

In the matter of S.L.J., minor Creek child, case no. JV 95-26. Notice of hearing to Kimberly Michelle Johnson, mother of S.L.J.

You are hereby given notice of hearing on the above-styled and numbered case for the purpose of adjudication of your parental rights in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex at Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the 20th day of December, 1996 at 9 a.m.

You are hereby informed that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the child remain ward of the court and custody be continued in the children and family services administrative program for continued foster placement or possible pre-adoptive placement.

You are further informed that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

I have unto set my hand this 19th day of November, 1996.

(s) Patrick E. Moore, District Court Judge

Campbell to lead Indian affairs committee

continued from page 1

influence on committee assignments.

In a statement released from his Washington D.C. office, the Ponca City Republican said he deferred the position because of his leadership responsibilities.

"As assistant majority leader, I will be extremely involved in every issue that comes before the Senate, including Indian affairs. I will continue to represent Oklahoma's Native Americans from what I see as a very favorable position in the Senate leadership and as a member of the finance, energy, budget, and government affairs committee.

"Senator Campbell and I will work together closely during the 105th Congress to pass sound legislation that will be positive for all Oklahomans."

Campbell, serving his first term as a Senator, is known for his independent voting record. He is the only American Indian (Northern Cheyenne) in the U.S. Senate and came to Washington as a Congressional Democrat.

Tribal leaders should have realistic expectations about Campbell's tenure as chair and be prepared for a continuing appropriations battle, warns Timothy Wapato, National Indian Gaming Association Executive Director.

"Senator Campbell has stated, Indians may have a moral right and a legal right for the things we ask for, but these arguments can fail [tribes] in the face of the political realities of this new Congress," Wapato wrote in a memorandum issued from NIGA to gaming tribes. "Tribes must become active in the political process. Tribes must contact their own and other legislators to lobby [on] issues of importance."

Beaver has firsthand experience with lobbying, having leadership roles in several political action groups related to Indian affairs. He was also part of the Muscogee Nation contingent that travelled to Washington D.C. one year ago to contest proposed reductions in Indian programs.

"I would like to express my appreciation to all of the other tribal leaders across Indian country who joined the Muscogee (Creek) Nation in lobbying efforts against the selection of Sen. Slade Gorton for the chairmanship of the Indian affairs committee," Beaver said. "I believe we sent a clear message to Congress that we will fight any intrusion into our sovereignty.

Legal notice

Printed in *The Muscogee Nation News*, volume 25, issue 12, December 1996.

In the matter of Bobby Lee Harjo, Mickel Harjo, and Renee Harjo, minor Creek children. Notice of hearing to the unknown father of Bobby Lee Harjo, Mickel Harjo, and Renee Harjo.

You are hereby given notice of hearing on the above-styled and numbered case for the purpose of adjudication/disposition of your parental rights in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, tribal complex, Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the 6th day of January, 1997 at 1:30 p.m.

You are hereby informed that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the child remain ward of the court and custody be continued in the children and family services administration program for continued foster placement or possible pre-adoptive placement.

You are further informed that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

I have hereunto set my hand this 18th day of November, 1996.

(s) Patrick E. Moore, District Court Judge

Former Chief Cox hospitalized

TULSA — Former Muscogee Nation Principal Chief Claude Cox is expected to remain hospitalized through December at St. Francis Hospital, Tulsa.

Cox, the tribe's first elected chief of the modern era, was admitted to the hospital to treat an infection related to a broken hip he suffered in 1994. He also had stomach surgery in October.

Speaking by phone, the 83-year-old Cox remained alert and offering opinions on a number of current events. "I'm doing pretty good, but (the doctors) don't me to get out and have a setback."

Correspondence can be directed to him in care of St. Francis Hospital, 6161 South Yale, Tulsa, OK, 74136. His wife, Lily, has been released from her hospitalization and is recuperating at their rural Bristow home.

The Muscogee Nation News

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Deadline for submissions is the third Friday of every month. *The Muscogee Nation News* reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

James Wolfe, managing editor
Stephanie B. Berryhill, senior staff writer
Summer Barnes, secretary

Council approves feasibility study at November regular session

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) National Council gave its approval for the principal chief, Council speaker, and second speaker to negotiate a feasibility study for the economic potential of Fountainhead Resort Hotel and Conference Center.

The lodge is situated on the shore of Lake Eufaula in McIntosh County and is privately owned. The tribe will not bear the costs for the feasibility study.

The resort has been used by the tribe to host the quarterly meetings of the Five Tribes Intertribal Council and the Creek Nation Festival and Rodeo All-Indian Golf Tournament.

The vote for authorization was unanimous. Voting for the proposal were (listed alphabetically followed by district):

Richard Berryhill, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; **Steve Bruner**, Tulsa; **Johnson Buck**, Tukvpvtce; **Helen Chupco**, Muskogee; **Irene Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **Ron Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **A.D. Ellis**, Okmulgee; **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes; **Anderson Hale**, Okmulgee; **Clyde Johnson**, Okfuskee; **Jess Kelley**, Tulsa; **Dave Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Harley Little**, Muskogee; **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **Abe McIntosh**, Okmulgee; **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Tom Pickering**, McIntosh; **Bruce Smith**, Okfuskee; **George Tiger**, Creek; **Phyllis Warrington**, Creek; **Nancy Watson**, Creek; **Earl Wheeler**, Creek; and **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce.

Absent from the meeting was **Larry Bible**, Tulsa. Speaker **Wilbur Gouge** conducted the meeting and not vote.

In other business, the Council:

• approved unanimously (24-0) to authorize the Principal Chief to request the Bureau of Indian Affairs for approval for right-of-way access across tribal property at Tulsa Creek Indian Community. Southwestern Bell Telephone Co. wants the access to lay underground cable;

• approved unanimously (24-0) an amendment to the National Council Act 94-10 (establishing the health systems hospital and clinics act of 1994). The amendment establishes residency requirements for the five board members;

• approved unanimously (24-0) to provide supplemental funding to the tribal tax commission for implementation of the motor vehicle code. The $101,550 is one-half of the tax commission funding for fiscal year 1997;

• approved unanimously (23-0) a continuing ordinance for tribal programs and services to use funds from the fiscal year 1997 comprehensive annual budget. Absent was **Buck**, Tukvpvtce;

• returned to committee (17-6) a bill creating the position of chief gaming operations officer and repealing all ordinances that conflict. Under the proposed NCA 96-110, the gaming operations authority board would be dissolved. The proposal is expected to be returned to a joint committee of budget and governmental operations and tribal affairs.

Voting against the motion to return to committee were: **I. Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **R. Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; and **Tiger**, Creek;

• returned to committee (20-3) a resolution for the nomination of tribal citizen Mike McCoy of Tulsa, to the gaming operations authority board. Voting against the motion to return to committee were: **I. Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **Lewis**, Okmulgee; and **Lowe**, Tukvpvtce;

• approved (21-2) the adoption of the rules and procedures for the National Council. Voting against adoption were; **Warrington**, Creek; and **Wheeler**, Creek;

• approved unanimously (23-0) a tribal resolution supporting Sen. John McCain's (R-Arizona) continued chairmanship of the Senate Select Committee on Indian Affairs.

The approved ordinances and tribal resolutions will be forwarded to Principal Chief Perry Beaver for his consideration.

The December regular session will be at 10 a.m., Dec. 21, at the tribal capitol complex.

Holiday greetings from the Muscogee (Creek) National Council

The National Council would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

This time of the year strengthens us for the challenges ahead in the coming year. As National Council Representatives, we must move forward and stsrive to improve and develop sound policies, programs, rules, and regulations that will affect the Nation in the coming year.

Families too, face challenges in developing and maintaining units of support and caring. This holiday season is the time for gathering of families and friends. It affords us the opportunity to fellowship with each other and strenghtens us for the challenges ahead in the coming year.

Enjoy the season upon us and meet the challenges ahead of us.

Wilbur Gouge, Speaker
Muscogee (Creek) National Council

Events and happenings

Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Association

OKLAHOMA CITY — Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Association is having an Indian taco sale from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Dec. 14 at the OCMA Communtiy Center, 543 South East 29th. Cost of a meal is $4 per plate and includes a drink. Carry out will also be available.

The community also holds its regular monthly meetings on the first Tuesday of each month at the community center.

Mvskoke calendars available

OKLAHOMA CITY — 1997 Mvskoke language calendars are available through mail order for $3 each. The calendar features the months and days in Mvskoke. For more information or to order, contact George Bunny at: (405) 947-7752; or 2941 Cashion Pl., Oklahoma City, OK 73112.

Communities, students organize tour

TULSA — The Bring Peltier Home Campaign '97 Christmas Clemency Tour will be Dec. 11, from 7 to 11 p.m. at The Great Hall, Allen Chapman Activity Center, University of Tulsa.

Comedian Drew Lacapa is the master of ceremonies. Other featured acts are: Dennis Banks, American Indian Movement; Fred "Red Crow" Westerman, actor; Butch Powell & Band; and other area talent.

Leonard Peltier, Lakota-Ojibwa, was convicted for the deaths of two federal agents after a firefight at Oglala, S.D. He was the only one convicted. Peltier is considered a political prisoner by Amnesty International.

The event is sponsored in part by Muskogee (Creek) Indian Community, Tulsa (Creek) Indian Community, and University of Tulsa Native American Student Association.

State seeks historian-project specialist

OKLAHOMA CITY — The Oklahoma Department of Commerce through the Oklahoma Historical Society, is accepting applications for an Indian historian and project specialist to assist with planning for a pan-Indian cultural facility. Applicants must have completed academic requirements for a master's degree in American Indian history or related field with preference given for a Ph.D. and experience in museum administration or planning. The salary range starts at $35,000 with benefits.

For more information, contact Blake Wade at the historical society at (405) 521-2491.

Tribe accepting home energy assistance program applications

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Social Services will accept applications for the low income home energy assistance program (LIHEAP) for those seeking assistance with home heating expenses beginning Dec. 16.

Applications can be made at the program offices at the tribal capitol complex, U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56, or at social services' field offices.

Applicants are required to furnish the following information:

• head of household must have certificate degree of Indian blood (CDIB);

• proof of income for all household occupants;

• social security numbers for all household members;

• proof of residency within Muscogee Nation tribal jurisdiction; and

• a utility bill in the name of the applicant.

Priority will be be given to elderly, disabled, and households with children less than six years old.

For more information, call: (918) 756-8700 ext. 280. Those outside the Tulsa area can call: 1 (800) 482-1979.

Washie Lewis

by Stephanie Berryhill

Entered into the slim, ledger book are carefully penned words, all the essential elements of lives he had known well and some of whom he had come to know through the words of others.

The book was started by his grandfather. It then passed to his brother, David, now — the last of his father's children — it belongs to Washie.

His own entry may begin —

Record of Washie Lewis. M34
Born April 27. 1905
Jan. 12. 1935 — Married Salina Mae McIntosh during convention year: family of Salina lived near Big Arbor Baptist Church
March 25. 1934 — ordained
One daughter. Evelyn Bernice Lewis...

Washie was born to Daniel and Polly Thompson Lewis on the allotment of his father located six miles southwest of Eufaula.

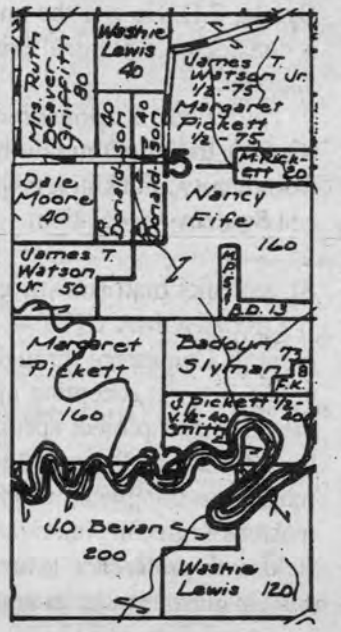
He began going to school at Bacone in 1920. By the time he had graduated from its high school, in 1927, a significant event had occurred. While at Bacone he converted to Christianity and was baptized on Dec. 19, 1920. Over the next decade he was led to answer the Creator's calling.

He joined West Eufaula Baptist Church on June 29, 1921. Washie became licensed to preach on Feb. 15, 1933. In 1934 he was ordained to the ministry. The following year his brother, David, also ordained, married him to Salina Mae McIntosh at West Eufaula. In 1935 he also began his first year of Baptist mission work throughout the Muscogee and Seminole nations. He ministered to two other tribes also — Wichita Indians in Anadarko and the Alabama-Coushatta in Livingston, Texas.

Washie worked his father's place during the first three years of his marriage, raising corn, peas, pumpkin, and watermelon. After only 10 years together, his wife died on Oct. 28, 1945. He left their only child to be raised by his sister, Nancy.

Washie's homestead 40 is located one section north of his 120-acre allotment in Creek County; both properties are around 11 miles southwest of Bristow.

Occupying his homestead 40 and allotment was basically out of the question. Like many full-blood and rural Mvskokulke that still own family allotments, severing ties to the homeplace, tribal town, or church were not considered.

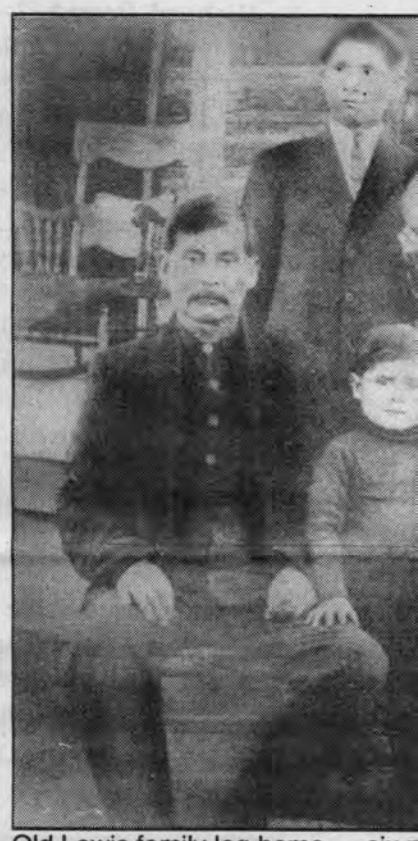


Because Washie was born two years before the rolls were closed, his allotment was the remainder of what had already been picked over.

"Since I came in late, 1905, most of the good land was already possessed, already occupied. I was way late — minor. It was 1905 that's why this was surplus land. My father and another Indian went in a horse and buggy... [Canadian] Deep Fork River goes up 15 feet way up that river and it's woodland — plenty woodland and plenty rock; nobody didn't want it."

Although it may have not been considered prime land, it wasn't devoid of mineral resources. He was able to attend Bacone with the money produced from wells drilled in 1918 and 1919. Texaco Oil Co. found oil on his land again in 1950.

Because he was alone and was pastor of West Eufaula, Washie moved into his mother's camphouse around 1947; it provided him a comfortable home through the next four decades in which he remained by himself.



Old Lewis family log home — six m
Eufaulace Tribal Town. Pictured, fr
Frank, Polly, Nancy; back — Benja

Another occupation he held was that of store clerk at S.B. Holman Merchandise Store, Eufaula, in 1950.

"I worked in town, so I know how to wrap salt meat," Washie jokes. His salt meat-wrapping days were over none too soon, "about that time they found oil on my land — I quit work!"

By 1951 he was no longer working in the mission field either. He has been pastor of West Eufaula intermittently for the last 50 years. Washie attributes illness to having kept him out of the pulpit lately, although he has preached seven times so far this year.

In addition to being pastor, he has held many positions in the church as well as the Muscogee-Seminole-Wichita Association. He held the position of Sunday school and Baptist Young Peoples Union Director for nine years also.

Although his life was greatly influenced by Christianity, he left the church one year to participate at his tribal town — *Eufaulace*, located one-quarter of a mile from his father's place.

"I went one year and I just quit; I guess I didn't want it. Most of the time I used to go to churches, but I changed about one year. But Eufaulace,

because it was close to me, sometimes I'd go out and come back, but I didn't dance until later year."

His mother was active at *Eufaulace* also until she converted to Christianity.

"She used to say that when you go to stompground you have to be faithful to stompdance. She said, 'don't go to stompdance and go to church — go to church and go back to stomp' — they didn't do that. If you go to stompdance you stay with it. Don't be going back and forth. Once she become Christian she quit going to stompground. Nowadays they don't realize this."

Washie has observed many changes in the church throughout this century. He believes relationships between Christian people aren't like they once were.

s southwest of Eufaula near old
left to right are: front — Daniel,
in, David, and Washie.

"In the early years they were real Christians... They believed in the Holy Spirit teaching, now they say you have to go to theological school...so things have changed quite a bit. In the early years, Christians, they loved, respected each other, but they don't hardly do that now. There's not much love anymore."

He is of the era of fervent commitment to church — week-long campmeetings, all-night services, continuous occupation and upkeep of camphouses and church grounds. He feels technology, as well as a new generation with different priorities, has also affected the church.

"In the early years, church members, they used to camp Friday, Saturday, Sunday. Sometimes they'd go home Monday, but they don't now. They just come maybe Saturday night, go back, come back Sunday morning; that's the way it is now. We [had] to drive in wagon or buggy or sometimes walk; that's why we came Saturday... Now that they have cars they can go and come back... Wagon-days and car-days are different. Most of the old people died away. Younger people they don't hardly [come]; they [come] all right, but not like old people."

Washie believes commitment to church and community are not the only virtues that the younger generation has allowed to fall aside.

"In my year, about 1918, 1919, it was mostly family teaching from their fathers and mothers — we lost that. They used to be kind of strict-like. When they say 'don't do that,' why they mean that. If you don't they give you switch-like, whipping. But they don't do that; they call it child abuse. That makes it different, way different: no home teaching; no home training; let the school take care of it."

Though only a couple of generations removed, most would agree that contemporary Mvskoke women are hardly reminiscent of grandmothers and great-grandmothers.

"My mother was a real full-blood Indian woman. She was a homemaker — stayed home, [went] to church. If we worked, she cooked. She was a real Indian food cook — *sofke*, blue dumplings, sour bread, *apvske* — anything that's Indian cooking, that's all she knew. She was not educated woman. She went to early Indian school. In English she didn't know anything too much. All what she knew was to write her name. She used to make wild grape dumplings, chicken and dumplings, and mostly anything that's boiled — like pork feet — what Indians call *sakonepke*. That was my food; I still like that. She used to look for greens in the springtime. She used to look for poke salad and other green stuff that we could eat. She used to be pretty good at fixing poke salad like that; that was also my favorite."

Washie's grandfather, Jackson Lewis, was born in Alabama and arrived in Indian Territory when he was six years old. Having entered the service of the Confederate States in 1861, Jackson served as a doctor in the Second Regiment Creek Indian Volunteers. An active member of Eufaula-Canadian Tribal Town, he was its representative to the Creek National Council, House of Warriors.

He was well known for his abilities as an Indian doctor. Jackson taught his children and some of his grandchildren this skill also.

"My father was a doctor. Most of the time he'd doctor me using herb medicine. I never did hardly go to white doctor or white hospital until way later years. I had an aunt, Nancy Lewis Harjo, she was a doctor. I think she doctored me a little bit — my mother and Nancy, they used to doctor me. Most of the time it was my father [that took] care of me and doctor[ed] me.

He go someplace all of the time. He didn't hardly stay home. Sometime he'd stay home and one day [he would] go somewhere else and doctor people."

Washie was five years old when his grandfather died. His father passed away while he was attending Bacone, so Washie did not experience their instruction first hand.

"I went to Bacone in 1920. My father, he told me after I finished school, he used to tell me that he was going to teach me about Indian doctoring. But since he died when I was at Bacone, I never did know too much about Indian medicine or Indian doctoring."

In addition to his grandfather, father, aunt, and sister, many of his brothers were doctors also.

"Seems like its just a family way; they knew the Indian way [of] doctoring just by some way I can't hardly explain. It's just a family occupation you might say, doctoring people. My grandfather was doctor and my father was doctor: Jackson, my half brother; Frazier, my half brother; David, my brother; and my nephew, David Jr.; and another one, Garfield Lewis."

What knowledge Washie has of doctoring was learned from his brother David.

"David and Jackson, they were doctors... I knew a little bit about looking at herb medicine mostly through my brother Dave."

Tribal people live in an age where these things are no longer being learned. Self-sufficiency need not be sought — the nearest grocery store and tribal clinic is little more than a half-hour's drive from almost any point in the Nation. The language many elders defiantly resisted has been mastered so well that the Mvskokulke tongue renders a foreign sound to most under age 40.

When asked his thoughts on the nature of relationships between elders and this new generation, he answers objectively.

"Nowadays they're not too close. It seems like they're independent — older people, young people. Most young people, you know, they don't associate too much [with] older people. They go their way; older people they [are] left alone, seems like. I don't know why.

So, the next 50 years, there will be some Creek Indians, but not too much talking, not too much singing, or preaching, maybe — that's the way I see it."

Editor's note: Washie Lewis belongs to the Turkey Clan.

His daughter, Evelyn Narcomey, resides in Salt Lake City, Utah. He is the grandfather of four: Blanche Narcomey Liston; Rena Narcomey Squier; Carol Narcomey; and Anthony Mark Narcomey. He has four great-grandchildren also.

Washie resides currently at Muscogee Nation low income housing in Eufaula. He has been led to true friends in West Eufaula assistant pastor and church members, Tommy and Judith Pickering of Eufaula.

Births and birthdays

Jeay Harjochee

OKEMAH — Jeay Lewis Harjochee was born Aug. 17 to Jess and Theda Harjochee of Okemah.

He weighed 7 pounds, 10 and one-half ounces and was 20 and one-half inches in length.

Harjochee

His paternal grandparents are Barney and Deborah Harjochee of Okemah.

Maternal grandparents are Wayne Toney, Shawnee and Barbara Toney, Oklahoma City.

Great-grandparents are: Lorene Culley of Wetumka; Bernice Sealy, Okemah; and Leon and Sue Toney, Porum.

Great-great-grandparents are the late Mattie Byrd Harjo, Weleetka, and Zeke Manning, Porum.

Jessica Hanun

TULSA — Jessica Paige Hanun was born May 3 at Hillcrest Medical Center to Mike and Janice Hanun.

Hanun

She weighed 7 pounds, 9 ounces and was 19 inches in length.

Maternal grandparents are the late Rufus and Phyllis Robison of Paden.

Paternal grandparents are Bill and Lynette Hanun of Elmore City.

Leah Hill

OKMULGEE — Leah Ann Hill was born Oct. 2 to Sherman Lee and Annette Powell Hill of Okmulgee.

Hill

She weighed 8 pounds, 9 ounces and was 20 inches in length.

Her maternal grandparents are Rusty Powell of Okmulgee and Eldean Tecumseh of Dallas, Texas.

Paternal grandparents are Dave and Shirley Hill of Shawnee.

Caitlin Coker

SHAWNEE — Caitlin Paige Coker celebrated her third birthday on Oct. 13 at McDonalds.

Coker

She is the daughter of Barry Coker and Cheryl Douglas, both of Chandler.

Maternal grandparents are: Cora Lee Coker, Wewoka; Edmond "Sonny" Coker, Holdenville; and Cora Belle McCombs, Holdenville.

Her paternal grandparents are Bill and the late Norma Williams Douglas, Chandler.

Brenna Tecumseh

OKMULGEE — Brenna Merky Tecumseh celebrated her third birthday Dec. 3.

Tecumseh

Tecumseh belongs to the Bird Clan. She is the daughter of Jennifer and Telle Tecumseh of Okmulgee.

Her maternal grandparents are Shirley Thompson of Henryetta and Joe Bear of Tulsa.

Paternal grandparents are July and Norma Tecumseh of Okmulgee.

Great-grandparents are: Isreal and the late Wisey Tecumseh, Okmulgee; Russell Thompson, Okemah; the late Cherokee Thompson; Betty Bear, Henryetta; and Buster Bear, Dustin.

Stickball outfit helps baby place in contest

ANADARKO — Asa Jaymon Reid received second place in the American Indian Exposition Beautiful Baby Contest.

Reid

Reid was dressed like a stickball player and received a trophy and toy car.

He is the son of Danielle Venus Reid.

Reid's grandparents are Albert and Fannie Frye Reid of Anadarko.

He is the great-grandson of Harbie and Mae Frye, Henryetta, and Jerry and the late Venus Reid of Anadarko.

Baby places in "Due by Two" pageant

MUSKOGEE — Ten-month-old Savana Ross Snyder placed first in her age division in the Due by Two beauty pageant.

Snyder

She won with a perfect score in the photogenic category of the competition.

Snyder is the daughter of Anita and Robert Snyder of Muskogee.

Maternal grandparents are John and Linda Waters of Fort Gibson.

Paternal grandparents are: Opal Snyder of Muskogee; and Bob and Bonnie Snyder of Fort Gibson.

Mvskoke-Yuchi lady receives award

OKLAHOMA CITY — Marcy Renee Wakeford was awarded the outstanding member of the year at the Oklahoma Federation of Indian Women's Annual Awards Banquet on Oct. 20.

She was chosen from a membership of 122 Native American women throughout the state. Wakeford was recognized for her hard work and dedication to the federation.

Since 1994 she has held three directorships for federation-sponsored events. Wakeford has held the offices of: recording secretary; historian; parliamentarian; and sergeant-at-arms.

At age 25 she is both the youngest officer and active member.

Wakeford belongs to the Bear Clan. She is the daughter of Ramona Mason of Tulsa. She resides in Tulsa with her husband, Steven, and their daughter, Julia Hayden.

Junior miss Indian pageant seeks applicants

TULSA — The 1997 Junior Miss Indian Oklahoma Competition is seeking applicants.

The competition, in its 15th year, is coordinated by the Oklahoma Federation of Indian Women.

Applicants must be:

- ages 13 through 17;
- one-fourth degree Indian; and
- have lived in Oklahoma for the past six months.

The deadline for applications is Feb. 1. The competition and contest pow wow is March 1, Oklahoma State Fair Grounds, Oklahoma City.

This year's competition is sponsored by Tulsa Creek Indian Community Smokeshop, Osage Hills Catalog Sales, and The University of Oklahoma Native American Center for Excellence.

For more information, contact Marcy Wakeford, director, at (918) 832-7289.

Community briefs

Eufaula hosts Veterans Day gathering

EUFAULA — Eufaula Indian Community hosted a gathering in honor of tribal veterans.

Featured speakers were: Thomas Yahola, *Este Cate* Veterans of Wetumka; Amon Harjo, National Service Officer for the Military Order of the Purple Heart; David Yargee, American Legion Post # 16 chaplain; and members of the Committee of *Osten*.

All speakers advocated recognition of veterans, improved benefits and services owed to living veterans as well as honors and rites due them during funeral services.

Members of the Committee of *Osten* presented a drawing of its proposed "Veteran Memorial Garden." Late committee member Monroe Sulphur was very instrumental in the project, to be located on the west lawn of the Muscogee Nation Tribal Capitol Complex.

Also recognized at the gathering was the late Ethel McIntosh, a "Five Star Mother." She had five sons that served in the military without returning.

Tulsa holds Veterans Day dinner

TULSA — Tulsa Creek Indian Community honored Native American veterans with and appreciation dinner.

Archie Mason was master of ceremonies. Jorene Coker, Committee of *Osten*, was the featured speaker. Alice Coe provided entertainment by singing "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy of Company B" and "Wind Beneath My Wings." Ramona Mason recited the Lord's Prayer in Mvskoke and performed it in Indian sign language.

Dinner was prepared by Mary Arkekeeta and was served to over 100.

In other community news:

- The community held a Halloween carnival. Over 150 people attended. The costume contest winners in the 20 and over age category were: first, Gloria Lowe, old woman; second, Pat Kelly, *honkv*; third, Naomi Eades, *sofkehiyv*.

Muscogee obituaries

ANGELA BEAVER

MUSKOGEE — Funeral services for Angela Brooke Beaver were held Nov. 4 at St. Paul United Methodist Church with Revs. Harry Long and Jim Hill officiating.

Beaver died Oct. 31 as a result of a traffic accident. She was born May 9, 1979 in Muskogee to Pete and Bridget Beaver.

Beaver was member of Big Cussetah United Methodist Church.

She was a senior at Hilldale High School. Beaver was secretary for the National Honor Society at Hilldale and was September student of the month. Other activities she was involved in include: Mu Altha Theta; German Club; varsity cheerleader; track team; golf team. She worked part-time at Wal Mart also.

Beaver is survived by: her parents; one brother, John Matthew Beaver of the home; two uncles, William Beaver and Perry Beaver; seven aunts, Letha Rutherford; Miley Hargis; Cora Berryhill; Jean Froman; Hanna Beaver; Sally Wittman; and Rebecca Smith; 26 cousins; and a host of friends.

Pallbearers were: Carl White; Chris White; Jay Parker; Dewayne Pemberton; Del Vince Beaver; and Anderson Berryhill. Honorary pallbearers were: Perry Beaver; Oscar Beaver; Johnny Allen; Jerry Lowery; Mel Howell; Gene Hargis; Royce Wittman; Robert Kelly; and Jeff Williams.

Interment was in the Morris Cemetery.

JOHN BEAVER

OKMULGEE — Funeral services for John Franklin Beaver were held Nov. 7 at Belvin Baptist Church with Revs. John Buckner and Tim Britt officiating.

Wake services were held Nov. 6 at the church.

Beaver died Nov. 3 in Tulsa.

He was born April 8, 1937 to Daniel and Bettie Alexander Beaver.

He was a member of Foursquare Full Gospel Church.

Beaver was preceded in death by: one son, John Beaver Jr.; one daughter, Mary Beaver; and one sister, Wanda Gay Beaver Wilson.

Survivors include: five sons, Lloyd Beaver, Richard Beaver, both of Okmulgee, Ward Beaver of Morris, Ricky Beaver and Michael Beaver, both of Dallas; two daughters, Betty Alexander Harjo and Leslie Beaver, both of Okmulgee; three brothers, Clarence Beaver of Belton, Texas, Edger Beaver of Barnsdall, Martin Beaver of Knoxville, Tenn.; and mother of his children, Lucille Joshua of Okmulgee; 18 grandchildren; and other relatives.

ELIZABETH DAVIS

HAYDONVILLE — Funeral services for Elizabeth Davis were held Oct. 28 at Montesoma Baptist Church with Rev. Hiawatha Fixico officiating.

Wake services were held Oct. 27 at McClendon Funeral Home Chapel.

Davis died Oct. 25 at her home in Okmulgee. She was born Aug. 1, 1920 in Okfuskee County to Homer and Sadie Yahola Scott Biggs.

She was a member of the Ladies Auxiliary Veterans of Foreign Wars and Montesoma Church.

Survivors include: one son, Luther Factor of Tulsa; and one daughter, Patricia Factor of Bristow; 10 grandchildren; and eight grandchildren.

Pallbearers were: Fred Jones; Jimmy Jones; Walter Jones Jr.; Archie Mason; David Skeeter; and Conny Hart.

Interment was in Montesoma Cemetery.

WARREN DOXTATOR

OKEMAH — Funeral services for Warren W. Doxtator were held Nov. 6 at Springfield United Methodist Church with Rev. Harry Long officiating.

All-night song services were held Nov. 5 at the church.

Doxtator died Nov. 2 in Tulsa. He was born March 25, 1923 in Hughes County to Oliver and Lucinda Doxtator.

He joined the Army on Jan. 2, 1942. He received the National Defense Service Medal, the AAA Aerial Crew Man 7601, the EAME Campaign Medal, and four Bronze Stars. Doxtator was presented the Good Conduct Medal and World War II Victory Medal also.

He married Juanita Ruth Long in 1957. Doxtator was a retired carpenter. He was a member of Thlopthlocco and Springfield United Methodist Churches. He was a Sunday school teacher and a deacon.

He was preceded in death by: his wife in 1989; four brothers, Luis Tiger, Andrew Tiger, Waddell Cook and John R. Edmondstein; and one sister, Inez Walker.

Survivors include: one son, Private First Class Anthony Doxtator of Germany; two daughters, Anita K. Boos of Pampa, Texas and Annette Guinn of Enid; six grandchildren; one great-grandchild; and other relatives.

Pallbearers were: Clarence Yarholar; Thomas Yarholar; Jim Humble; Keith Humble; Kolby Humble; and Mike Little.

Interment was in Thlopthlocco Cemetery.

JOSEPHINE GRIMES

SAPULPA — Funeral services for Josephine Barnett Grimes were held Nov. 7 at Pickett Chapel United Methodist Church with Revs. John Fixico and Jerry Baker officiating.

Wake services were held Nov. 6 at the church with Rev. Malcolm Tiger officiating.

Grimes died Nov. 2 in Oklahoma City. She was born Sept. 25, 1957 in Los Angeles to Wadie W. Barnett and Patricia Hand.

She lived in Sapulpa most of her life. Grimes was employed at Parkway Cleaners in Oklahoma City. She attended school at Jones Academy in Hartshorne and was a member of Old Rock Creek Methodist Church in Sapulpa .

Grimes was preceded in death by: her father; a brother; one son; and one grandson.

She is survived by: her mother of Springfield, Ore.; adoptive mother, Jerry Kinsey of Sapulpa; her husband, Ken Grimes of the home; daughters, Kendra Grimes of the home, and Stephanie Davis of Sapulpa; sons, Titus Grimes of the home, Shawn Barnett of Sapulpa, and Lyle Barnett of Glenpool; sisters, Pam Barnett of Glenpool, Rebecca Littlebear, and Dee Ann Hand of Tulsa; brothers, Timothy Barnett of Altus and Steve Kinsey of Kellyville; and one granddaughter, Lena Mosquito of Sapulpa.

Pallbearers were: Dennis Fulsom; Sam Sage; Rudy Star; Joe Kunish; Fog Holmes; and Tony Wallace:

Honorary pallbearers were: Kenneth Watashe; Ronnie Watashe; Cheyenne Watashe; Benny Cloud; Clifford Littlebear; and Joe Mosquito.

Interment was in Green Hill.

ALICE JACKSON

HANNA — Funeral services for Alice Hill Jackson were held Nov. 20 at Trenton Baptist Church.

Wake services were held Nov. 19 at the church.

Jackson died Nov. 16 in Henryetta.

She was born on Jan. 20, 1916 in McIntosh County to Jesse and Yannah Buck Hill.

She married Samuel Jackson in August 1932 in McIntosh County.

Survivors include: one son, Dave Jackson of Oklahoma City; daughters, Gladys Jackson Harjo of Dustin, Geneva Jackson of Dustin, and Edna Jackson of the home; 11 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; eight step-grandchildren; and many other relatives.

Pallbearers were: Thomas Lowe; David Eugene Harley; Noah Tiger; Bruce Harjo; Zerndorf Billy; Victor Kyle Billy; Byron Dale Harjo; and Bobby Jo Johnson.

Her grandsons served as honorary pallbearers. Her great-granddaughters were flower girls.

MARY SOWEKA

RYAL — Funeral services for Mary Pigeon Soweka were held Oct. 26 at Ryal Community Baptist Church with Rev. Gene Harjo officiating.

Song services were held Oct. 24 at Robert Simons Funeral Chapel. Wake services were held at the church Oct. 25.

Soweka died Oct. 22 at Henryetta. She was born Jan. 15, 1915 at Hanna to Jim and Jennie Pigeon.

She was married to Jacob Soweka. She was a homemaker and member of Ryal Community Baptist Church. She lived in Henryetta most of her life.

Preceding her in death were: her parents; her husband; two brothers, Turner Pigeon and Bennie Pigeon; and one sister, Lucy Fixico.

Survivors include: one son, Wilson King; one daughter, Sally Pigeon; one sister, Lesta Soweka, all of Henryetta; one brother, John Pigeon of Florida; nephews, Robin and Robin Soweka Jr. of Henryetta; nieces, Bonnie and Shabon Soweka, both of Henryetta; grandchildren; and great-grandchildren.

Interment was in the Soweka Family Cemetery.

LARRY TAYLOR

PHAROAH — Funeral services for Larry Bryan Taylor Jr. were held Oct. 21 at Pharoah Baptist Church with Rev. Charles Keim officiating.

He died Oct. 19. Taylor was born March 21, 1971 at Henryetta to Larry Bryan and Elizabeth Ann Fish Taylor.

He was raised in the Pharoah community. He was active in Future Farmers of America was a graduate of Weleetka High School. He attended Tulsa Welding School. He worked with his father at Taylor's Welding Shop in Pharoah as well as other welding projects in and outside of Oklahoma. One of his favorite pastimes was fishing and hunting.

Survivors include: his parents; two sisters, Sharon Marie Taylor of Weleetka and Sarah Lynn Taylor of the home; paternal great-grandmother, Goldie Dodd Miller of Amistad, N.M.; paternal grandparents, Earl Bryan of Sedan, N.M. and Betty Jo Miller Leach of Nara Visa, N.M.; maternal grandparents, Eddie Roberts and Dorothy Dean Fish of Henryetta; two nephews and a niece, Joseph, Katelyn, and Tyler Craig of Okemah; and many other relatives.

Pallbearers were family members along with Tom Snell and Gary Baker Jr.

Interment was in the Fish Family Cemetery.

please see **OBITUARIES...**, page 8

Religion brief

Bemo Baptist Church

TULSA — Bemo Baptist Church has scheduled its Christmas service for Dec. 15. Sunday school begins at 10 a.m.; the worship service will begin at 11 a.m.

The church is located at 13323 S. 73rd.

E.U.C.H.E.E. youngsters sing *HE IA @ gô no*

TULSA — Euchees United Cultural, Historical, and Educational Effort language class performed for State Sen. Enoch Kelly Haney during a dinner held at Rogers University, Tulsa Campus.

Euchee language co-teacher, Linda M. Littlebear Harjo and her students sang *bA hA o nu* ("We Shall Over Come") and Euchee hymn, *HE IA @ fA nA* ("You All Must Come, You All Must Go") in a cappella. The unique class has been invited to perform at many functions in Oklahoma.

The event, "Indigenous Peoples of the Americas: Indians Celebrating; Indians Acting," was sponsored by the Committee on the International Decade of Indigenous Peoples of Tulsa Metropolitan Ministry.

Mose Cahwee, Euchee elder and language consultant, works with the children along with co-teacher Richard Grounds, PH.D.

The Euchee language class meets from 6 to 8 p.m. each Thursday at the Euchee Tribe of Indians office, 2 S. Independence, Ste. 400 in Sapulpa. All individuals are welcome to attend.

Euchee language class students: left to right, first row — Jaimie Skeeter; Eleanora McClain; and Heather Brown; second row — Detra Cahwee; Victoria McClain; and Candace Thompson Jr.

Obituaries

continued from page 7

BOBBY TIGER

SAPULPA — Funeral services for Bobby Joe Tiger were held Nov. 6 at Little Cussetah Baptist Church with Revs. Soloman Bullett and John Fixico officiating.

Prayer services were held Nov. 5 at Smith Funeral Home Chapel.

Tiger died Nov. 1 at St. Francis Hospital in Tulsa. He was born July 14, 1945 in Sapulpa. He attended Sapulpa Public Schools and was a graduate of Oklahoma State Technical School in Okmulgee. He was employed with Sapulpa Brick and Tile from 1973 until its closing. He was a fork lift operator at Bartlett Collin Glass Co. during the 80s.

He was a member of Little Cussetah Baptist Church.

He was preceded in death by: two daughters, Robin K. Tiger and Tina M. Tiger.

Survivors include: his wife, Barbara of the home; his mother and stepfather, Marie and Wiley Jack of the home; five daughters, Allison Michelle Richards of Sapulpa, Tracey Young of Broken Arrow, Kathy of Tennessee, Rhonda Sue Tiger of Sand Springs, and Kathy Tiger; one son, Robert Joe Tiger of Ada; and 12 grandchildren.

Casket bearers were: Mark Watashe; Kenny Watashe; Kenneth Richards; Eugene Jack; David Foster; and Kenny Cogburn.

Honorary pallbearers were: Lee Wallace; Ernest Watashe; Joe E. Watashe; Alan Pulver; Richard Young; Felix Watashe; and Larry Pipkins.

Gratitude

Thank you for remembering us with flowers, cards, and expressions of sympathy. This is a very difficult time for our family and it helps to know that our friends are thinking of us. We extend our gratitude and appreciation to the Muscogee Nation.

Mvto.

Angela Beaver Family

We would like to thank all who visited our loved one during his illness.

Paul McIntosh Family

Education briefs

Girl places third in U.S. history contest

MUSKOGEE — Schulter High School junior Melissa Ann Pigeon placed third in a U.S. history contest at the Bacone College Academic Bowl.

Pigeon

As the number three finisher, she received a $300 academic scholarship to the two-year school.

She is on the honor roll and plays basketball at Schulter.

Pigeon is the daughter of Glenda Washington.

Boy chosen October student of the month

TULSA — McClure Elementary second grad student Sergio Sanchez Jr. has been chosen October student of the month.

Sanchez

Selection is based on academic skills. He has a grade of excellent in spelling. Sanchez was selected student of the month during his kindergarten and first grade years also.

Religion brief

HOLDENVILLE — Heritage Full Gospel Tabernacle Christmas service and dinner will begin at 2 p.m. Dec. 22. A New Year's Muscogee hymn singing will begin at 8 p.m., Dec. 31. The church is at 619 W. Poplar.

New 4-H extension agent assigned to Muscogee Nation

OKMULGEE — Oktaha native Scot Bunch is the new Muscogee Nation Extension 4-H Agent. The program is for youth ages nine to 19 and is available to those living within the tribal jurisdictional boundaries.

This is his first 4-H assignment and Bunch said he has been working with county 4-H agents to become familiar with program objectives and methods of operation. He is a 1994 graduate of Oklahoma State University.

"I'm still training and learning," Bunch said. "In February I will have a couple of trips to Stillwater for training with the cooperative extension program."

The tribal 4-H program began a youth swine project three years ago. Eligible Indian youth were given a pig to raise with the student project culminating in a spring hog show.

"The big project for us will be the pig project," Bunch said. "It's too late to work this year but we will show in the spring. Participation will be for all Indian youth and there will be a jackpot for any Indian youth showing a hog."

Bunch said the program will resume buying hogs for students to raise next fall.

There are other possible projects and activities being considered. Among those are: gardening; a broiler show; embryology; as well as educational presentations.

For gardening, participants will plant gardens with seeds received from the 4-H program. Students would then cultivate the plants for a possible showing as a fair exhibit. The broiler project would provide the youth with hatchlings to raise with five of them shown dressed. The embryology project is a 4-H standard with youth charting the incubation and hatching of broilers.

Bunch said all of the discussed projects were still in the early planning stages.

"We still have the school enrichment programs that are available to classroom teachers and youth organizations that want presentations regarding agriculture." Bunch said.

Bunch also emphasized the variety of opportunities with 4-H.

"I'd like people to know what's available," Bunch said. "4-H has a very broad spectrum of activity based on teaching life skills — communication, learning by doing, and responsibility — to the youth.

"It's not just limited to agriculture. Bicycling, photography, pets, sewing, and cooking are also included as projects."

Volunteer leaders are a necessity for a successful 4-H program, Bunch said. Those interested in starting 4-H clubs or Indian 4-H clubs are asked to contact Bunch at (918) 756-8700, ext. 610 or 1 (800) 482-1979.

Address correspondence to the attention of Bunch in care of Muscogee (Creek) Nation, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

"I'm looking forward to the work I've got ahead of me."